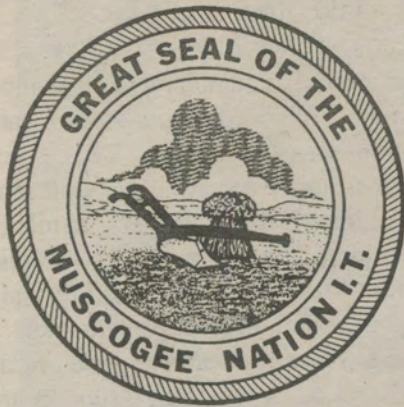




The Muscogee Nation News

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January 2000, 8 pages

Hawaii interested in leasing prison space from tribe

OKMULGEE — A State of Hawaii proposal for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to construct and operate a 2,300-bed prison has the potential to create hundreds of jobs, but for now, discussions between Hawaii state officials and the tribe have lulled while Hawaii legislators mull over the issue.

In December, officials from the state of Hawaii approached tribal leaders with a proposal to build a prison to house the state's inmates. The proposal calls for tribal construction of a prison with a long-term lease agreement with the state. Hawaii officials believe a lease agreement will be more cost effective than building their own prison.

Although the Hawaii legislature rejected Gov. Ben Cayetano's request for \$130 million to build a state prison last year, Attorney General Earl Anzai said support for a state prison is mounting and that getting legislative support for the proposal has been difficult. Hawaii's legislative session has recently begun and will last through April; Anzai expects it to make a decision regarding the proposal relatively soon.

State officials are also waiting to receive tribal operating cost figures that they may weigh against the cost of a state-constructed prison, he said. Until then, Muscogee Nation is the state's "number one" pick for the proposal. Anzai would not name tribes the state is considering as alternatives, although he did say state officials have looked at two sites in Arizona and two in New Mexico as well.

Legislative body selects speaker; Gouge to lead Council again

OKMULGEE — The 11th session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council elected McIntosh District Representative Wilbur Gouge to lead the 26-member legislative body during inauguration ceremonies held Jan. 8.

Gouge defeated Okfuskee District Rep. Bill S. Fife, of Weleetka, 15-11. Gouge, of Eufaula, served as speaker during the 1996-97 session of the National Council.

Tulsa District Rep. Robert Hufft, of Tulsa, was elected second speaker and Richard Berryhill of Coweta was elected sergeant-at-arms.

Welcome to the 21st century baby Mason

Muscogee baby first born in Okmulgee County

OKMULGEE — Baby Mason Lawrence Carpitcher came in with the 21st century at 4:31 a.m., Jan. 1.

Carpitcher was born at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, but — because his arrival was nearly six weeks early — was whisked away to St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa.

He weighed 3 pounds, five ounces at birth and was 16 inches in length. He is currently in the neonatal unit at St. Francis Hospital, but he is up five ounces from his birth weight and his mother, Jennifer Cox, says he will be coming home soon.

His parents are Cox and Lawrence Carpitcher, both of Okmulgee.

His paternal grandparents are William and Cindy Harjo of Okmulgee. His maternal grandmother is Cindy White of Oklahoma City.

Great-grandparents are Imogene and Andrew Carpitcher of Oklahoma City; Jean White of Newalla; and the late Christine Harjo, Henryetta.

Carpitcher is of Muscogee-Seminole-Absentee Shawnee descent. He is the son of the Kunu Clan.



submitted photo

Baby Mason Lawrence Carpitcher pictured with his father, William

National Council Committees assigned for the 11th session

Business and Governmental

Bill S. Fife, chair
Robert Hufft, vice-chair
Richard Berryhill
Keeper Johnson
James McGirt
Mary Sue Peak

Human Development

Barbara Gillespie, chair
Dwayne Lowe, vice-chair
Larry Bible
Earl King
Harley Little
Jacob Mosquito

Community Services and Cultural

David Nichols, chair
Tom Pickering, vice-chair
Nathan Buck
Helen Chupco
Duke Harjo
Famous Marshall
Sandra Turner Peters

Fact Finding

Sheridan Pickering
Alternate: Jacob Mosquito
Thomas McIntosh
Alternate: Tom Pickering
Harley Little
Alternate: Helen Chupco
Bill S. Fife
Alternate: Bruce Smith
David Nichols
Alternate: Sandra Turner Peters
Dwayne Lowe
Alternate: James McGirt
Mary Sue Peak
Alternate: Larry Bible
Barbara Gillespie
Alternate: Richard Berryhill

Tribal Affairs

Bruce Smith, chair
Anderson Hale, vice-chair
Jesse Kelley
David Lewis
Thomas McIntosh
Sheridan Pickering

At last, Indians get fair shake

by Dan Thomasson, *Scripps Howard News Service*

For the last 100 years, the government's management or rather mismanagement of Indian affairs has been a leading symbol of bureaucratic bumbling, insensitivity and downright corruption.

There never has been a secret about the malfeasance from the days of often evil, cheating Indian agents to the current incompetence that has fostered almost unrelenting poverty and dissolution among the nation's 2.2 million Native Americans, particularly those west of the Mississippi.

One of the most disgraceful examples of this has been the handling of the huge Indian Trust Fund into which hundreds of millions of dollars of royalties from the use of Indian lands are supposed to flow each year. The money is for, among other things, the cutting of timber and the pumping of oil on Indian lands.

It is difficult to imagine, but no one seems to know how much the fund should contain or how much some 300,000 individual Indians have been shortchanged over the last century. Estimates range as high as \$10 billion and even that may be light. For several years now the Interior and Treasury Departments who are supposed to manage the fund have been conceding that things haven't been right. While they admit sloppy bookkeeping, they argue that to come up with any

kind of accurate accounting might cost billions and billions. A settlement with the tribes might be the only solution, they argue. But negotiations broke off in the summer.

This all may be changing. U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth several weeks ago lowered the boom on government officials, ordering them to overhaul the trust fund and to make things right for the beneficiaries.

Lamberth's order contained a stinging indictment of the federal government's policies that he said demonstrated "fiscal and governmental irresponsibility in its purest form." The judge added that it is entirely possible that tens of thousands of these particularly poverty stricken Indians "should be receiving different amounts of money — their money — than they do they today." The ruling came in a suit filed by the Native American Rights Fund and sets the stage for a trial to determine how much the Indians are owed.

The government clearly has demonstrated over an incredible period of time that it is incapable of handling the trust no matter how much authorities pledged to correct the situation. After all, Lamberth last February had cited Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, As-

Please see **INDIAN TRUST**..., page 4

Families appreciate support of dance

Editor:

We would like to express our appreciation to those who attended our benefit gourd dance. We are grateful for the donations we offered to us.

We would like to thank the following people: Ronnie Harris; Delphine Lavier; Eudora Rogers; Benjamin Butler; Larry Butler; Rhett Mathews; Kay Willie; Christine Berryhill; Marcy McCarty; and Larry and Charles Wilson for their help and donations.

We would like to extend special gratitude to Carl Butler. He has shown our family much support and we appreciate everything he has done for us. Without Mr. Butler this wouldn't have been such a success. *Mvto!*

The Harjo and Jacobs families, Tulsa

Council member appreciates votes

Editor:

I am taking this opportunity to thank you for your vote of confidence as one of your representatives from Okmulgee County for the next two years.

I know this position carries with it a great responsibility to tribal members, both old and young. I want to work with you as we help, plan for, and make decisions that will affect our fellow citizens today as well as in the future. We can do this as we work together one step at a time.

Keeper Johnson, Morris

Chitto Harjo voted Muscogee (Creek) Citizen of the Century

Chitto "Crazy Snake" Harjo, a legendary voice for tradition and treaty rights, has been selected as Muscogee (Creek) Citizen of the Century through a poll conducted by *The Muscogee Nation News*. Readers were asked to select a favorite citizen, through a voting process conducted throughout the year or to cast a vote at the Inauguration of Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver on January 8, 2000.

Finishing second was acclaimed actor Will "Sonny" Sampson. Former Principal Chief Claude Cox was third in the poll, while poet and writer Alexander Posey and war hero Col. Ernest Childers tied for fourth

place. Baseball great Allie Reynolds finished fifth.

Others that received votes were: ceremonial ground people; Jean Hill Chaudhuri; Reuben Cook; Phillip and Helen Coon; Joy Harjo; Dode McIntosh; Rev. Daniel Phillips; Norma Jean Barnett Pinney; Lisa Tiger; and Bennie Scott.

Editor's note: Pictured clockwise on page three's Citizen of the Century collage are: Claude Cox; Sonny Sampson; Ernest Childers; Allie Reynolds with Joe DiMaggio; Chitto Harjo; Joy Harjo; Alex Posey; and Lisa Tiger.

Letters to the editor

Citizen disappointed in principal chief

Editor:

As a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe, I look forward the new year with hope and a prayer that the year 2000 and the years that follow will be one with hope, encouragement, and success to my people.

As a single mother of four beautiful children, I decided to return to Oklahoma two weeks ago. I wanted my children to be proud of their native heritage and learn the ways of the tribe.

We left Arkansas with nothing but a few clothes. We had no money, no food, no home. I'm thankful to my sister who opened her home to us until we could get on our feet. I receive a check for my disability; unfortunately, my checks will not transfer until February.

I was told to go to our Chief Perry Beaver and to tell him of my situation and that he would support and help me. Not only did I walk away disappointed, but I walked away with the realization that being Native American, Afro-American, Spanish, or whites are just titles. The "family" that I wanted my children to know and learn about no longer exists.

I was able to get assistance with food from the Elks Club and Deep Fork Community, for that I want to express my thanks. I want to also send my appreciation to the Department of Human Services for helping me give presents to my children and the social service department for trying their best to help my children and me in finding a home.

As I walked out of the chief's office I thought of all those people who voted, who didn't receive the beautiful [inauguration] invitation written in silver — the ones that voted with hope of a better life — the ones that don't have the fancy clothes to attend even if they wanted too. People, as myself, who find themselves in need of onetime assistance who can't find it because a lot of monies have gone into having a party to celebrate a success. I want to extend my congratulations to Chief Beaver and all those worthy of the invitation. I pray that as you enjoy your night of triumph — know that I'm not angry or bitter, but that you have given me determination and strength to not give up, but to see this bad time through with a smile upon my face and the knowledge that the millennium is not the ending, but the start of new things to come to those who are forgotten or looked over.

Johnnie DePriest, Okmulgee

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

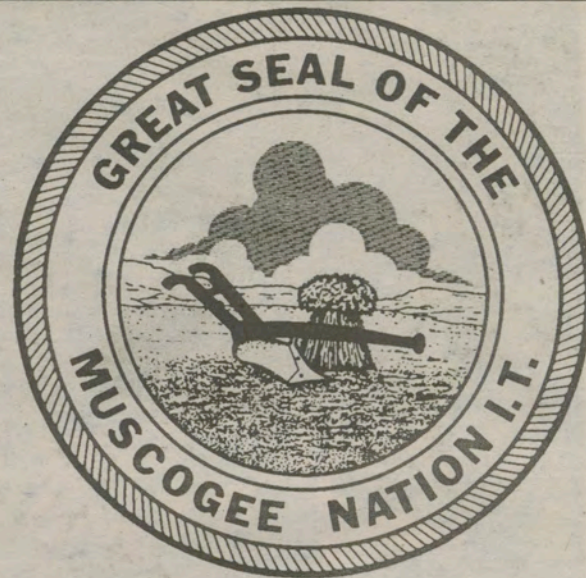
The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Lucas Taylor, graphic design
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, circulation



Muscogee Citizen of the Century

INAUGURATION



*"The Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the New Millennium:
Celebrating a Legacy of Progress Through Perseverance,
One Spirit, One Voice, One People."*

Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac swears in R. Perry Beaver to his second consecutive term as Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief.

photo by Lucas Taylor



photo by Lucas Taylor



Newly elected Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Representatives are sworn into office.

photo by Lucas Taylor



A.D. Ellis is sworn into his first term as Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac.





photo by Stephanie Barnett

Kendall and Zachary Beaver of Putnam City share a laugh with Chief Beaver.

The Muscogee Nation Honor Guard began the Inauguration program by posting the colors. Pictured, from left to right, are: Smiley Barnett; Leo Moppin; Vernon Courtwright; and Tim Thompson.



photo by Lucas Taylor

photo by Lucas Taylor



Chief Beaver is presented with a silver medallion of the tribal seal by metalsmith, Tillie Noon.

photo by Stephanie Barnett



Chief Beaver signs a program for Miss Mvskoke Nation Kandice Buck.

Miss Indian Oklahoma 2000, Julia Noel, and newly elected National Council Speaker, Wilbur Gouge, pose for a post-inauguration photo.



photo by Stephanie Barnett

photo by Stephanie Barnett



Phillip Coon of Sapulpa congratulates Second Chief elect A.D. Ellis and his wife, Gail.

Programs-notices

Jenks Head Start to host stompdance

KELLYVILLE — The Parent Committee from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start in Jenks will host an indoor stompdance Kellyville Indian Community Center on Feb. 5.

For more information about booths and other details, contact (918) 298-5698.

Clans meeting to be held at Salt Creek

SALT CREEK — A clans meeting will be held at Salt Creek United Methodist Church on March 17 and 18.

Stories, games, and debates explaining the history and identity of each clan will be explored in the Mvskoke and English language during the meetings.

Stories shared during the meeting will be preserved for future reference of audio and video recorders.

For more information, contact Fred Long at: 4313 NW 22nd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73107-2623; or (405) 949-2147.

Museum announces annual student art show

MUSKOGEE — The Five Civilized Tribes Museum and Center of Indian Territory will hold its Annual Student Art Show on March 5 through 31.

The contest is open to seventh through 12th grade students who are members by blood of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee, and Seminole tribes.

In the painting, drawing, sculpting, and woodcarving categories, cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. The entry deadline is Feb. 21.

For more information, contact: Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Agency Hill on Honor Heights Drive, Muskogee, OK 74401; or (918) 683-1701.

Housing authority announces poster contest

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority and AMERIND Risk Management Corporation is holding a 2000 National Fire Safety and Home Safety Poster Contest.

Students in kindergarten through eighth grades throughout the Muscogee Nation boundaries are eligible to enter the art contest.

Entry forms will be accepted until 5 p.m. on April 7 at the resident services department located at the McCullough Building on 114 N. Grand.

Prizes will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners in three categories: kindergarten through third; fourth through sixth; and seventh and eighth grades.

A television with a video cassette recorder, Sony Playstation, and a bicycle will be prizes awarded to the winners. Also, each participant will receive a certificate of participation.

An awards presentation will be held on April 15 from 11 a.m. to noon. Refreshments will be served and a fire safety and home safety program will be presented.

First, second, and third place winners will qualify for regional competition. Regional winners will qualify for a grand prize, which includes airfare and hotel accommodations to Anchorage, Alaska in October.

For more information, contact: Larry Soweka at

Tribe and USDA sign memorandum of understanding

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Perry Beaver and State Conservationist Ronnie Clark signed a Memorandum of Understanding to protect, conserve and enhance the tribe's natural resources.

The MOU will help bring United States Department of Agriculture conservation programs to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and its citizens.

The Natural Resources Conservation Services currently staffs a conservationist position within the Muscogee Nation and the tribe will provide and maintain office space for the conservationist.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service, formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service, is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture offering technical assistance to protect, develop, and wisely use soil, water, and other natural resources.

Projects already underway are: an outdoor learning center for cultural and environmental education; propagation of tribally important plants; and conservation planning of the tribe's agricultural lands.



photo by Lucas Taylor
State Conservationist Ronnie Clark and Chief R. Perry Beaver prepare to sign the memorandum of understanding.

(918) 752-3254; Gena Roberts at (918) 759-4167; or 1 (800) 259-5050.

Senior services selects elder of the month

OKMULGEE — Wiley Sampson was selected as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services Elder of the Month.

Sampson, age 95, was born in a log cabin east of Morris on Aug. 13, 1904 to Washington Sampson and Cinda Hill.

He belongs to the Bird Clan and Arbeka Tribal Town. Sampson attends Grave Creek Baptist Church.

He has three children: the late Will Sampson, Norma Jean Bible, and Vena Mae Randall.



Sampson

Indian Trust

continued from page 2

sistant Secretary Kevin Gover, who oversees the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and then Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin for contempt for disobeying a number of court orders to produce records.

"The court knows of no other program in American government in which federal officials are allowed to write checks — some of which are known to be written in erroneous amounts — from unreconciled accounts, some of which are known to have incorrect balances," the judge said.

Right on! It has been for the last 100 years. But it didn't stop those in charge from making them, no matter how lame. The tyranny of the federal government over the American Indian over the last two centuries is well documented. Some of it was inevitable in the march across the continent. But there can be no justification for what has happened since.

One can only hope that for one of the few times in all this infamy, thanks to Lamberth, the Native Americans win.

Head Start holds annual policy council retreat in Henryetta

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start held a Policy Council Retreat at the Guesthouse Inn on Oct. 9.

The retreat is held once a year to train and inform new policy council members about: the roles and responsibilities of policy council members, parents, staff and tribal council; the goals and objectives of Head Start; Head Start policy and procedures; methods and procedures for conducting effective meetings; the importance of shared decision making; and service plans.

The Muscogee Nation Head Start has six centers that must implement mandatory regulations called performance standards in order to operate a head start program. The standards are revised and written explaining how the program plans to implement regulations according to Head Start goals and objectives.



photo submitted
Those attending, from left to right, were: Barbara Marshall, Wilson Head Start; Karl and Valeria Wooden C.D.S., Jenks Head Start; Chief R. Perry Beaver; Lisa Storm, Checotah Head Start; Leigh Ann Mooney, Checotah Head Start; and Danny Bowen, Holdenville Head Start. Others attending the retreat were: Pat Wind, Head Start manager; Barbara O'Neal, education specialist; Victor Bear, nutrition specialist; Betty Smith, special services liaison; and Sue Henson, parent-community specialist.

Society

Arrivals

Kelly Biladeau

ASHBURN, Va. — Kelly Lillian Biladeau was born April 13 to Mark and Kathryn Biladeau of Ashburn, Virginia.

She weighed 9 pounds, 3 ounces and was 21 inches in length.

Her maternal grandparents are Patrick Highland and the late Elizabeth Highland of Florham Park, New Jersey.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Richard and Lillian Biladeau.

Biladeau is the great-granddaughter of Lulu Noka McIntosh and great-great-granddaughter Chief William McIntosh Jr.



Biladeau

Sydney Shaddix

OKMULGEE — Sydney Else Shaddix was born Jan. 3 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Brandy and Jimmy Dale Shaddix of Dustin.

She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 18 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Ila and Brian Fife of Dustin.

Her great-grandparents are Betty and Buddy Bear of Henryetta.



Shaddix

Jowina Yargee

ADA — Jowina Tanell Tiger Yargee was born Oct. 29 at Valley View Hospital Erica Tiger and Alex Yargee.

She weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Her maternal grandparents are Leo and Madeline Tiger of Seminole.

Her paternal grandparents are Lillie and Jack Yargee of Eufaula.

Her maternal great-grandparents are Annie and the late Joe Fixico of Seminole.

Her paternal great-grandparents are Mary and the late Jack Issac Hill of Dustin and Winey and the late Phillip Yargee of Holdenville.

Yargee belongs to the Beaver Clan and Cedar River New Tulsa Tribal Town.



Yargee

Retired minister celebrates 90 years

HOLDENVILLE — Willie Mack Gooden of Okmulgee celebrated his 90th birthday on Dec. 18 at the American Legion.

Willie was born in Calvin on Dec. 30, 1909 to George and Katie McCosar Gooden. He belongs to the Bird Clan and New Tulsa Tribal Town. He is a retired Indian Methodist minister and had served as pastor to many churches before his retirement.

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver recognized Gooden as an "honored elder citizen" of the Muscogee Nation in honor of his birthday.

Those attending were: Jeanette and Beverly Jones; Abe Gooden; Joyce Pace; Betty Jo Harjo; Lena and Herbert Brook; Margaret Segriest; Eddie and Karen Gooden and children; Tonya Gooden; Brandon and Amy Gooden and children; Bennie and Ruby Gooden; Trix McCloskey and children; Tisha Morrison; Martha and Thompson Billy; Jeanette Davis; Mableline Harjo; Richard, Angela, and Andrea Kihega; Michael and Dean Kihega; George and Shirley Almerigi; Georgina Gooden and Tommy Ray; J.D. and K.C. Colbert; Zula Green; Estell Herrod; Randy and Charlotte Jones and children; Louis and Joyce McCosar; Amos and Michelle Harjo; Ramona and Tonya Faulkner.



A 1909 Indian on a 1929 Indian; this picture of Gooden was replicated on his birthday cake.

Tribal citizen wins world championship

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Tribal citizen Lue Hansen recently won the National Barrel Horse Association 1999 World Championship.

Hansen competed against approximately 894 riders in all three divisions of the competition. Forty were selected from each division with 120 competing in the finals. Hansen, and with her horse, Stormy Magnum, rode her way into first place of the second division in two days.

Hansen returned to competition at the age of 41, not having been active for 25 years. She began competing in barrel racing at the age of 11 in Oklahoma. Her father, Eastman Richard, coached her to run barrels at rodeos. She was second in the state junior rodeo association at 13 years of age. She competed until the age of 16 when her father died.

As champion she received received: a \$300 gift certificate; boots; a \$500 bonus for wearing Wrangler jeans during the competition; a belt buckle inset with diamonds, rubies, and sapphires; a horse trailer;

a horse blanket; saddle; jacket; a big and a little barrel; and she also took home \$4000 in cash.

Hansen resides in St. Charles, Minn. She is the daughter of Richard and Helen Osburn and the granddaughter of the late Rina Richard Urquhart.

Mitchell and Lowe exchange Vows

OKMULGEE — Dennis Mitchell Jr. of Okmulgee and Shannon Lowe of Weleetka were united in marriage on Jan. 10 in Okmulgee.

Lowe is the daughter of Marvin and Sharon Lowe of Weleetka.

Mitchell is the son of Dennis and Dinah Mitchell of Okmulgee.



Lowe and Mitchell

Thomas siblings celebrate three birthdays; ages span three decades

BROKEN ARROW — Three members of the Thomas family, of Broken Arrow and Coweta, are celebrating birthdays.

The Thomas family was raised near the Verdigris River bottom in Broken Arrow. They are the children of Mac and Sarah Thomas and together the brother and sisters have 264 years of life and memories of life on the farm.

Celebrating his 78th birthday on Nov. 8 is Billie S. Thomas, celebrating her 88th birthday in January 11 is Katie Thomas Smith and celebrating her 98th birthday on Feb. 2 is Nora Thomas Nelson, an original allottee of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Thomas is an 18-wheel truck driver who enjoys drawing, playing the french harp, and violin.

Smith is a singer with the blue grass group "Umy and the Good Timers" and has many hobbies including sewing, raising a garden, and cooking what some consider the best sweet potatoes in town.

Nelson lives in Coweta and enjoys crocheting, cooking, and sewing. She belongs to Springtown United Methodist Church.



Nelson, Thomas, and Smith

Obituaries-religion

JORDAN BARNETT

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Jordan Lynn Barnett were held Jan. 8 at Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Bernadine Dowdy officiating and Woodrow Wilson assisting.

Wake services were held Jan. 7 at the home of Joseph Barnett.

Barnett, the infant son of Donna and Joe Barnett Jr., was born and died on Jan. 6 at Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa.

He is survived by: his parents of Broken Arrow; brothers, Nolan Lane of Coweta and Ryan and Tanner Lechner of Broken Arrow; one sister, Jackie Kipner of Broken Arrow; grandparents, Joseph Barnett and Rachel Barnett, both of Bristow and Art and Margaret Vonstetton of Tulsa; and many other relatives.

Interment was at the Barnett Family Cemetery.

ALMON BEAVER

BROKEN ARROW — Funeral services for Almon Donald Beaver were held Nov. 15 at Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Bernadine Dowdy officiating.

He died Nov. 11 at his home in Broken Arrow. Beaver was born July 27, 1933 in Broken Arrow to Amos and Stella Moody Beaver.

Beaver was the owner of Clean Air Systems of Tulsa, an electrostatic air cleaning business. He had been employed at Baker Hughes for 18 years. Beaver was a veteran, having served as a green beret paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division.

He was a member of: Tulsa Delta Masonic Lodge #425, of which he had been a past worshipful master; Tulsa Scottish Rite; Akdar Shrine of Tulsa; Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team; and Native American Veterans of Broken Arrow Color Guard. He was a member of the Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa, serving on the scholarship committee and with the dance troop; he was a champion southern style straight dancer. He was also a member of Haikey Chapel.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Mike Beaver.

Beaver is survived by: two daughters, Donna Beaver of Henryetta and Leigh Ann Robison of Beggs; a son, Terry Beaver of Baton Rouge, Louis.; five brothers, Vance of Kinder, Louis.; Glade of Blackhawk, Colo.; Milo of Broken Arrow; Gary of Ft. Worth, Texas; and Harry of Puyallup, Wash.; one sister, Vivian Blackwell of Riverridge, Louis.; six grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were his brothers and son.

Honorary pallbearers were members of the Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team and the Akdar Shrine Indian Unit.

Interment was at Bixby Cemetery.

JIMMIE GREENE

BIXBY — Funeral services for Jimmie Greene were held Nov. 26 at North Heights Church of Christ with Minister Milton Smith officiating.

Greene died Nov. 23 in Tulsa. He was born Feb. 28, 1926 in the Pickett Prairie area to John and Lochar Techarna Greene.

He lived in the Bixby area all of his life and at-

tended Liberty Mounds and Bixby schools.

Greene was retired, having been employed with Southern Hills Golf Club as a grounds keeper. He was a member of North Heights Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; four sisters, Sadie, Hannah, Ella and Elsie; and one brother, Mac.

Green is survived by: two sons, Jimmie J. Greene of Kellyville, Gary D. Greene of Bixby; one daughter, Wanda A. Greene of Bixby; six grandchildren, Daniel, Rebecca, John, Lee, Kacy and Belinda; and seven great-grandchildren.

Interment was at the Bixby Cemetery

ELIZA LOWE

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Eliza Lowe were held Dec. 27 at Holdenville Indian Community Center with Rev. Joe Lowe Jr. officiating.

Wake services were held at the community center on Dec. 28.

Lowe died Dec. 23. She was born March 16, 1923 in Okemah to Albert and Alice Byrd Berryhill.

During World War II she worked at Douglass. In 1953 she married John Lowe. She was a member of the United Methodist Women, Senior Methodists, and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

She is survived by: her husband; two sons, Merle Berryhill of Okmulgee and Frank Lowe of Oklahoma City; two brothers, Eugene and Albert Berryhill; one sister, Mary Rogers; three grandchildren, Amy and Erica Lowe and Rene Berryhill; and one great-grandchild.

Interment was at the Wewoka Church Cemetery.

MELANIE PARKER

KVNCA — Funeral services for Melanie Marie Parker were held Nov. 1 at Concharty United Methodist Church with Revs. George Miller, Jerry Byrd, and Billy Nowabie officiating.

Wake services were held Oct. 31 at Leonard and Marker Funeral Home Chapel.

She died Oct. 27 in Tulsa. She was born April 19, 1984 to Douglas F. Parker and Rhonda Juneau. Parker was a sophomore at Preston High School.

She is survived by: her parents; two brothers, Ronald E. Parker and Jeremy Morgan; grandparents, Evelyn M. Parker, Clyde Tag Parker, Joe and Maggie McNac, and Royce Juneau; and many relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Joe Hooper; Danny Miller; Doug Juneau; Dennis Juneau; Anthony Barnett; and Chris Quammer.

The honorary pallbearer was Junior Whitlow.

Interment was at Duck Creek Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers during the illness and passing of our loved one.

We would also like to thank the following: Belvin Baptist Church; Montesoma Baptist Church; the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association; Okmulgee Indian Community; Okmulgee Health Clinic; Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver and [former] Second Chief George Almerigi; and the Muscogee Nation.

We offer special acknowledgment to: Muscogee Nation Department of Justice; children and family services; division of tribal affairs; and the judicial

branch.

Bill Gee Family

Religion

HECTORVILLE — Two Rivers Native American Training Center is offering an advanced certificate in theological studies or a diploma in theological studies in partnership with Oral Roberts University, School of Theology and Missions.

The courses include:

- "Signs and Wonders" — this course will allow students to study the manifestation of signs and wonders and a history of the church. It begins Feb. 1 and will be held on Tuesdays from 7 to 9:45 p.m.;

- "Cross Cultural Inter-relationships to Native Americans" is designed to help people who will be involved in Christian outreach ministries to Native Americans. It begins Feb. 3 and will be held on Thursdays from 7 to 9:45 p.m.

Applicants will be accepted into the program until Feb. 11. For more information, call (918) 366-6735

Grant Chapel holding wild onion dinner

OKEMAH — Grant Chapel United Methodist Church is holding a wild onion dinner beginning at 11 a.m., Feb. 5 at Okemah Indian Community Center.

The community center is located two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27.

Creek hymnal singing being held in Wewoka

WEWOKA — The Ministry of Life Church is having an open Creek hymnal singing on the afternoon of Feb. 6.

The church is located at 210 N. Oklahoma.

Christ fellowship holding volleyball tourney

SEMINOLE — United Tribes for Christ Fellowship is holding a volleyball tournament Feb. 12 at Mekesuke Mission gymnasium.

The entry fee is \$40 per team.

For more information, call (405) 869-2152.

Wewoka holding its third wild onion dinner

HOLDENVILLE — Wewoka United Methodist Church is holding its annual wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 26 at Holdenville Indian Community Center.

The cost for the all-you-can-eat-dinner is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children ages 12 and under. The community center is located at 416 E. Poplar St.

Wekiwa Baptist hosting Creek singing

SAND SPRINGS — Wekiwa Baptist Church is hosting a Creek singing on Feb. 26.

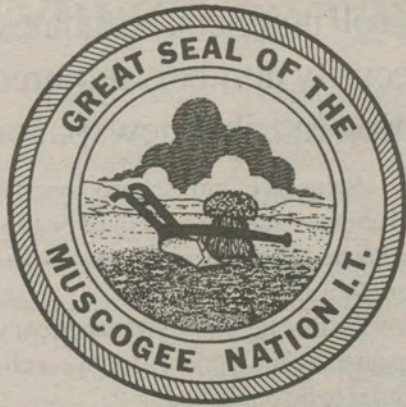
Supper will be served at 6 p.m. and the singing will follow at 7 p.m. Singers, listeners, and beginners are all invited.

The church also holds a monthly gospel singing on the first Saturday of each month at 7 p.m.; its next singing will be held on Feb. 5.

Tallahassee Cemetery in need of cleaning

OKMULGEE — Families with loved ones buried at Tallahassee Methodist Church Cemetery are encouraged to organize a church cemetery cleaning.

For more information, contact Esther Gona at (918) 759-2459 and leave a name and phone number.



The Muscogee Nation News

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Volume 29, Issue 2

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February 2000, 12 pages

World War II Marine reunited with captured flag nearly 55 years after Battle of Iwo Jima

by Gerald Wofford

The Battle of Iwo Jima was one of the most dramatic and blood-wrenched battles of World War II. Out of this 36-day epic event, there were 25,851 U.S. Marine casualties, with 6,285 losing their lives. The Japanese army would virtually lose their entire defense with 22,000 being killed.

This monumental clash began on Feb. 19, 1945 on a seven and one-half mile island of volcanic ash which was coveted because it was a strategic spot for allied air-landings. With the capture of this Japanese island, the U.S. could refuel and plot bombing strategies on Tokyo, only 500 miles away. The battle also captured one of the most memorable photographic images of the war — the raising of the American flag on Mt. Suribachi, a 550 foot volcanic cone at the island's southern tip.

Although there would still be one-half of a year left of the Pacific war, slowly and surely, the U.S. was gaining ground on the stubborn and proud

Japanese army.

Muscogee Citizen Herman Deere, like all U.S.

platoon of Headquarter Company, Second Battalion, 28th Marine Regiment, Fifth Marine Division. At one point during the battle, Deere realized that the enemy was hiding inside a cave. Iwo Jima was riddled with fortified caves, booby traps, and underground tunnels designed to give the Marines a huge disadvantage. Deere did not dare go inside the hole, but knew that only one member of the Japanese army was inside. "It was either him or me," said Deere. He fired shots into the cave and killed the enemy. While checking the enclosed area, Deere found a Japanese flag inside the helmet of the dead soldier. Deere took the flag, that emblem contained a large red dot on a white background. The red dot symbolized the rising sun of Imperial Japan.

"It wasn't uncommon for soldiers to pick up souvenirs during the war," Deere said. "The flags were often found by many of my friends. I think



photo by Gerald Wofford

Herman Deere with the Japanese flag he captured 55 years ago.

Marines who fought on Iwo Jima, saw the battle in all its horrific glory. Deere was serving with the mortar

please see **FLAG...**, page 9

Census Bureau, chief encourages tribal peoples to be counted

by Gerald Wofford

TULSA — On Jan. 21 Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, along with Tulsa Mayor Susan Savage and other officials, turned out for the official opening of the Tulsa area U.S. Census office.

The Bureau of the Census is responsible for the population count every ten years. Andrew Skeeter, Tulsa area Census Bureau manager, said the Census is similar to a political campaign, "all politicians know that if you get 20 to 25 percent of the vote — you're doing great, but we have to shoot

for 100 percent and we need a lot of people's help to do that."

The Census has been hiring temporary employees to assist in taking the entire Census population count and encourage everyone, including American Indians, to sign up and be counted.

For the first time on the Census ballot a person will be able to mark their tribal affiliation. In years past, an individual has only been able to mark "American Indian/Alaskan Native." The individual marking will not only allow for a separate



photo by Gerald Wofford

Tulsa Area Census Bureau Manager Andrew Skeeter addresses the crowd at its opening. Chief R. Perry Beaver and Tulsa Mayor Susan Savage are far right.

please see **CENSUS...**, page 9

National Council Schedule

Planning sessions begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays prior to the regular/quarterly National Council session. Regular/quarterly sessions will begin at 10 a.m. with the pre-agenda session beginning at 9 a.m.

All meetings are held in the National Council Chambers, the modular building just east of the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building located on the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Planning session — Mar. 21	Planning session — Aug. 22
Regular session — Mar. 25	Regular session — Aug. 26
Planning session — April 25	Planning session — Sept. 26
Quarterly session — April 29	Regular session — Sept. 30
Planning session — May 23	Planning session — Oct. 24
Regular session — May 27	Quarterly session — Oct. 28
Planning session — June 20	Planning session — Nov. 14
Regular session — June 24	Regular session — Nov. 18
Planning session — July 25	Planning session — Dec. 12
Quarterly session — July 29	Regular session — Dec. 16

Legal notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
volume 29, issue 2, February 2000

Case No. AD 2000-01

In the matter of:

Emily LouAnn Hill, Christopher Aaron Hill and
Rebecca Lynn Hill, minor children.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Lora A. Hill

Order for and notice of hearing to determine
whether or not to consent of mother is necessary for
adoption

On this 7th day of February 2000 the Petitioners
having filed an application to determine that the con-
sent of the above named mother of the above named
minor children is not necessary for adoption alleging,
among other things, that the mother has willfully failed,
neglected and refused to support the minor children
and provide and otherwise behave in a manner suffi-
cient to preserve a right to consent to adoption, the
Court determines to set for hearing whether or not the
consent of Lora A. Hill is necessary for adoption.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by
the Court and notice is given that on the 17th day of
April 2000, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Court in
Okmulgee, Oklahoma at 9 a.m. the Court will deter-
mine whether or not the consent of the above named
mother is necessary for adoption and in the event that
she does not appear at such date, time and place then
the Court may determine that the failure to appear
and to show cause why her consent is necessary con-
stitutes a denial of interest in the children which denial
may result, without further notice of this proceeding
or any subsequent proceeding, in the determination that
her consent is not necessary for adoption. If she ap-
pears the Court will establish a scheduling order so
that appropriate preparations for trial on the merits may
be made

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the District Court

Michael E. Yeksavich
O.B.A. #9948
Attorney for Petitioners
1107 South Peoria
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
volume 29, issue 2, February 2000

Cause CD No. 200000393

Applicant: Yale Oil Association

Relief Sought: Pooling

Legal Description: S/2 of Section 16, Township 10
North, Range 13 East, McIntosh County, Oklahoma

Notice of hearing

STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO: All persons, own-
ers, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil
and gas, and all other interested persons, particularly
in McIntosh County, Oklahoma, and all parties listed
as respondents on Exhibit "A," attached to the appli-
cation on file herein, and more particularly: Harold

Dean Haynes, heir of James Haynes, deceased; Jen-
nifer Haynes, heir of James Haynes, deceased;
Norma Jean Harjo Chalakee; James Haynes, de-
ceased; Steven Fixico, heir of Rose Star, deceased,
heir of Lena Taylor, now Starr, deceased; Ronnie
Fixico, heir of Rose Starr, deceased, heir of Lena
Taylor, now Starr, deceased; Dennis Taylor, heir of
Rose Starr, deceased, heir of Lena Taylor, now Starr,
deceased; Melanie Locust, heir of Rose Starr, de-
ceased, heir of Lena Taylor, now Starr, deceased;
Rose Starr, deceased, heir of Lena Taylor, now Starr,
deceased; Lena Taylor, now Starr, deceased; and
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Real Property Manage-
ment, if living, or deceased, the known and unknown
heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, successors,
trustees and/or assigns, immediate and remote, of
the above named parties.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the applicant
in this cause is requesting that the Commission pool
the interests and adjudicate the rights and equities of
oil and gas owners in the Calvin, Thurman, Savanna,
Upper Booch, Lower Booch, Hartshorne,
Wapanucka, Union Valley, Jefferson, Gilcrease and
Cromwell common sources of supply underlying the
S/2 of Section 16, Township 10 North, Range 13 East,
McIntosh County, Oklahoma, a 320-acre drilling and
spacing unit, and designate the applicant or some
other party as operator. Applicant requests the pool-
ing order cover an owner's interest in all wells drilled
on said unit which are necessary to fully develop the
same.

IT IS ORDERED that this cause be referred to
an administrative law judge for hearing, taking of
evidence and reporting to the Commission.

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an ad-
ministrative law judge on the Merits Docket at the
Corporation Commission. First Floor, Jim Thorpe
Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m. on
the 29th day of February 2000, and that this notice
be published as required by law the rules of the Com-
mission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the appli-
cant and interested parties may present testimony
by telephone. The cost of telephone communication
shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its
use. Interested parties who wish to participate by
telephone shall contact the applicant or applicant's
attorney, prior to the hearing date, and provide their
name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested
persons may appear and be heard. For information
concerning this action contact MR. BOB
MARCHAM, Yale Oil Association, Inc., 6 N.E. 63rd
Street, Suite 425, Santa Fe North Building, Oklahoma
City, Oklahoma, 73105, (405) 840-1811, or
CHARLES L. HELM, Attorney, 105 North Hudson,
Suite 1000, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102, (405)
232-9000. Please refer to Cause CD Number.

DONE AND PERFORMED THIS 1st day of Feb-
ruary, 2000

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLA-
HOMA

BOB ANTHONY, Chairman

DENISE A. BODE, Vice Chairman

ED APPLE, Commissioner

CHARLOTTE W. FLANAGAN, Secretary

Inclusion of roll numbers, birthdates, or Social Security numbers required for publication in tribal newspaper

OKMULGEE — Subjects of births, birthday, edu-
cation, career, and obituary submissions must be trib-
ally enrolled citizens in order to be published in *The
Muscogee Nation News*.

All submissions for this type of newspaper copy
should be accompanied by the subject's tribal enroll-
ment number in order to be published.

If the enrollment number is not available, submit
the Social Security number or birthdate of the subject
and (or that of a tribally-enrolled parent for children
ages three and under) name in which the individual is
enrolled under. This information will assist staff in
verifying enrollment through the Muscogee Nation
Citizenship Board Office.

The inclusion of a contact telephone number for
each submission and a return address for photographs
is requested also.

All submissions received without information to
verify citizenship will be returned to sender.

For more information, contact *The Muscogee Na-
tion News* Managing Editor Stephanie Barnett at:
(918) 756-8700, ext. 312; write, P.O. Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447; or e-mail,
comm2@ocevnet.org

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official
publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its
purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe
and its citizens through the dissemination of in-
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guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the
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The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor
the tribal administration. Editorials and letters
must be signed by the individual writer and in-
clude a traceable address or phone number to
be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for
inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday
of every month**. *The Muscogee Nation News*
reserves the right to edit all submissions for
space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submis-
sions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation
News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Stan-
dard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all
enrolled citizens' households upon request and
proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed
to the tribal communications department. Please
include your tribal enrollment number with all cor-
respondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Lucas Taylor, graphic design
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the quarterly session held Feb. 1.

Absent were: **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District and **Earl King**, Tulsa District.

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- approved (16-6-1) Tribal Resolution 00-01, confirming the renomination of **Charles R. Coleman** to the Muscogee Nation Health Systems Board;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh;

voting no were: **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee;

abstaining was **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee;

Coleman is a tribal citizen residing in Weleetka;

- approved (15-7-1) TR 00-02, confirming the nomination of **Dana Johnson** as tax commissioner of the Muscogee Nation;

voting no were: **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Little**, Muskogee; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Smith**, Okfuskee;

abstaining was **Peters**, Okmulgee;

Johnson is a tribal citizen residing in Okemah;

- approved (19-4) TR 00-03, confirming the nomination of **Will Freeman** as deputy director of the division of human development;

voting no were: **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Smith**, Okfuskee;

Freeman is a tribal citizen residing in Tahlequah;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-04, confirming the nomination of **James Pratt** as controller of the Muscogee Nation;

Pratt is a Cherokee Nation tribal citizen residing in Porter;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-05, confirming the nomination of **Curtis Ray Hicks** as deputy director of the division of tribal affairs;

Hicks is a tribal citizen residing in Hitchita;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-08, confirming the renomination of **Patrick E. Moore** as district court judge of the Muscogee Nation;

Moore is a tribal citizen residing in Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-09, the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for major rehabilitation work. The contractors are: Westchester Development with a bid of \$12,600; Circle L. Construction with a bid of \$15,205; and M.W. Builders with a bid of \$23,450;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-10, in support of legal action to preserve the sovereignty of the Nation, the Nation's treaties, and the Nation's constitution. This resolution lends support to **Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver's** initiation of legal action against the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The IRS is challenging the Nation's tax exempt status as it pertains to certain gaming revenue which violates the Nation's treaties with the U.S., as well as its Constitution, and status as a sovereign Nation;

- approved unanimously (23-0) National Council Act 00-06, authorizing the negotiation of the purchase of certain real property located in the City of Okmulgee and appropriating funds for negotiation. The act authorizes principal chief to spend \$5,000, from the interest on the permanent fund, on appraisals, consultants, or legal and professional fees and other incidental expenses to investigate 31 acres located at Sever Street and Box Avenue;



Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, left, accepts a plaque from Muskogee District Representative Harley Little on behalf of Muskogee Bedouin Shrine Temple members. The plaque was offered in gratitude of tribal support offered to their van fund.

photo by Gerald Wofford

- approved as amended (22-1) NCA 00-08, authorizing the principal chief to negotiate for and purchase property north of the Nation's governmental complex in Okmulgee. The property is being considered for purchase for development and construction of administrative buildings for the Creek Nation Housing Authority. The Nation's FY 98 and 99 Indian Housing Plan provides for \$3.2 million to be expended on the development and construction of the buildings. The Council amended the expenditure amount to \$1,475,000.

voting no was **T. Pickering**, McIntosh;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-09, authorizing the expenditure of a tribal program development grant from National Children's Alliance for the children and family services program. The grant, totalling \$22,500, will be used to develop a multidisciplinary interview center for forensic interviews and medical examinations to increase the scope of services to abused children and their families;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-10, authorizing the executive branch and division of community services, children and family services department, to expend family violence prevention and services funding from the Department of Health and Human

Services as funding is available;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-11, authorizing the senior services department to expend \$1,000 in grant monies from the Zarrow Foundation. The money will be used for arts and crafts supplies for elders;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-13, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement to purchase interior signs for Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo in the amount of \$62,236.18;

- approved (22-1) NCA 00-14, amending NCA 99-114 — the comprehensive annual budget for FY 2000 — to appropriate funds for salary increases for the principal chief and **Second Chief A.D. Ellis**. National Council Act 99-118 and NCA 99-117 increased the principal chief and second chief salaries to \$65,000 and \$40,000, respectively. The amendment increases the executive branch budget line item for the office of principal chief from \$355,772 to \$405,101;

voting no was **Peters**, Okmulgee;

- approved as amended (22-0) NCA 00-15, amending NCA 99-202 — appropriating funds for the renovation and repair of the mound and administration buildings and authorizing the principal chief to expend funds for that purpose — and authorizing the principal chief to secure a loan with the Creek Nation Housing Authority. The amendment authorizes the principal chief to secure the loan of \$1,407,045 (interest included);

Mosquito, Creek, did not vote;

Mosquito, Creek, did not vote;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-16, authorizing a budget modification in excess of 10 percent for the realty department appraisals for the FY 2000 budget.

the FY 2000 budget.

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-18, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to purchase a new video security system for Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo;

- approved as amended (17-5) NCA 00-20, authorizing the principal chief to enter into an agreement whereby the Nation may develop tribal lands held in trust at or near 81st and Riverside in the City of Tulsa. The act authorizes the chief to spend \$25,000 from the economic development three-year plan to conduct conceptual planning and preconstruction services. The amendment requires the economic development planner to make a planning progress report to the Council monthly.

voting no were: **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Harjo**, Creek; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **McGirt**, Tukvptce; and **S. Pickering**, Creek; and

- approved (22-0) NCA 00-22, authorizing the principal chief to negotiate an agreement with the land owners of the Barking Frog gas station in Muskogee to pursue the acquisition and development of the acreage and existing facility necessary for the purpose of constructing a tribal travel plaza;

McIntosh, McIntosh, did not vote.

Chief Beaver: State of the Nation address

Greetings to the members of the National Council, judicial branch, tribal employees, citizens, and other honored guests.

It is with a sense of great honor that I stand before you this evening to present to you the annual State of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Address for 2000.

The year 2000 is very special to all of us — for it is the marking of the new millennium in man's history. And it is especially significant to us as Muscogee (Creek) people — for it is a celebration of our tribe's survival as a people. As I stated during my recent inaugural address — the Muscogee (Creek) people have survived as a distinct Nation of Indian people with much of our culture and traditions still intact, only through the endurance and will of the generations behind us who blazed a difficult and often devastating trail. We would do well today as we contemplate a new century to remind ourselves of the sacrifices of our elders that have prepared the way for us today.

I am proud to inform you this evening that the State of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is strong and ready to meet the challenges of the new century!

Today, because of the confidence that you have expressed in the current leadership, we are gathered here to go over the past accomplishments of the year and to chart a course for the next. I might add that you, the individual tribal citizen who elected us, should be recognized for your foresight in electing a leadership team — but let me add — the willingness to support and work toward a common goal should be a unified effort — for only through a dedicated effort of teamwork will the tribe continue to function as a progressive government responsive to the needs of each citizen. Let's lay aside any differences that might detract us from getting at the business at hand — for they are all petty in the face of the larger picture — which is to serve our tribal citizenry.

Highlights of the accomplishments of 1999 include the strides we have made in providing jobs to Creek citizens — as reported by the personnel manager, we just hired our 600th employee who will work here at the tribal complex. This is an increase of 200 more employees than last year. That is not counting the 600 or so employees hired by the housing authority and health administration and other tribal entities — combined, the tribe has in excess of 1,200 employees — that's a lot of jobs! Not to mention raising our citizens standard of living and the overall bonus to the local economy. We were also able to provide again this year a three percent cost of living raise for all employees as well as continuing the successful employee recognition program. Good morale builds good workers.

While on the subject of our outstanding work force, I would like to express my appreciation to the employees for their support and cooperation. With very few exceptions, the employees have put forth every effort in providing timely services to citizens. We are doing good, but let's strive to do even better in this area.

Through the work of these dedicated employees, tribal services are provided to Creek and Indian clients through three major divisions: the division of community services, which administers the social services department, children and family services, com-

munity development, food distribution, and the office of child care — which recently began renovations on the Okemah and Checotah child development centers and is also in the process of searching for property in Wagoner County to locate a center; the division of human development administers the employment and training program, the Eufaula Dormitory, Head Start, higher education, and Johnson O' Malley program; and the division of tribal affairs which administers realty-trust services, the roads construction program, economic development, federal roads program and transportation improvement. The health administration operates under the authority of the health board.

Under the office of administration is the self-governance office, communications, real property and facilities, general services administration, management information services, personnel, and senior services.

Additionally, services to the tribe are provided by the office of the treasury, citizenship, election, lighthouse, department of justice and Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act and housing offices.

I would like to commend all of my directors for the outstanding job they have done in this past administration and to say that I look forward to working with you again in this administration.

On budgetary matters, we approved an annual budget last year in excess of \$70,000 million dollars (including self-governance and U.S. Housing and Urban Development) that has, in part, been due to our revenue-generating businesses — the Creek Nation Travel Plaza, our bingo facilities and tax revenues from smoke shops, fuel, and tribal tags. In the last four years, there has also been an increase in applying for and receiving competitive grants from the federal and state government. Again, this means services for tribal citizens from child care to elder care. Assisting in bringing in more dollars to our tribal coffers is our aggressive investment policy.

As a measure of our fiscal accountability, we have received, again this year the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" which is the highest form of recognition for state and local governments. We are very proud of this accomplishment.

On the subject of fiscal responsibility, the administration applied for and received a grant from Administration for Native Americans recently that will enable the tribe to have a strategic plan whereby meetings of the tribal citizenry will be held to determine the priorities for tribal government that you, the citizen, will give input into for the next five years. The results of these meetings held to prioritize the issues and concerns of the tribe will be published in a strategic plan for the tribe entitled, "Milestone to the Millennium." We are excited about this project in that it will set funding priorities, by ordinance, for disbursement of funds. We hope that you will be excited too, as we get further into the implementation of the plan, because it will give every citizen equal opportunity for input into the programs and spending of the tribe — again, as I have stressed over the last four years, we need to be working together to accomplish our goals for this tribe.

An overall profile of the tribe includes an enroll-

ment of 47,655 according to our citizenship board, tribal trust land well in excess of 5,000 acres, unallotted land in excess of 300 acres, and fee land in excess of 100 acres. We have approximately 70 facilities totaling approximately 464,000 square feet of office and building space which totals to an estimated dollar value of \$8 million.

This year, during the budget process for fiscal year 2001, I would like to see the National Council appropriate more funds for the top two priorities of this administration — education, economic development, and more services for the elders. The Council approved this last May — legislation that established a much-needed senior services department to assist the elders of the tribe in services and programs.

In education, we are busy developing long distance learning such as our agreement with a Tulsa university campus to provide associate's degrees in child care and we are currently in negotiations with Bacone College in Muskogee to locate a Creek Nation Child Development Center on their campus. These are only a few examples of the partnering that can be accomplished with outside entities that can be mutually beneficial to both of us.

The pursuit of sound, lucrative, and diversified economic development opportunities continues in this administration with plans underway to develop the Mackey Sandbar. Currently, I have submitted legislation to the National Council to explore the economic development feasibility there and I urge them to pass these critical bills.

A great leap in economic development came last year when the National Council approved legislation submitted by my office to establish a trade and commerce board and a Section 8A Board.

In providing suitable housing for Muscogee and Indian clients, I signed into law this past year three pieces of legislation that established NAHASDA positions and offices within the tribe to assist in providing housing and environmental services to meet clients housing needs. These programs continue to work efficiently and in cooperation with the housing authority.

The legislative priorities for this administration this coming year will be, as I cited earlier, economic development diversification and reorganization of the health administration. Currently, there is a bill that will be introduced in the Council that will bring the health administration under the executive branch.

Let me emphasize this evening — in order for our health system to be as responsive to the health needs of our citizens as they deserve, we all need to be on the same page — united in a common goal. There is a small, disgruntled group of misinformed persons out there that definitely do not share our spirit of working together. Should you hear or see their attempts to disrupt the services of our health system — disregard them and their false allegations for soon they will move on to another area to disrupt — for that is the nature of such people.

I would encourage each citizen who wants shares in the administration's initiative to try another method of quality health care, to urge their district representatives to cast a yes vote to bring the health adminis-

Programs-notices

Native American film scholarship offered

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Film Festival is offering a Native American Film Scholarship.

The \$500 scholarship will be awarded in June for the fall semester.

Applicants must meet the following criteria: must be a member of a federally recognized tribe; must submit his/her Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card with the scholarship application; must be an enrolled college sophomore, junior, senior, or pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in film/video production or related subject at a university or college; and must have a 3.0 grade point average or above.

For more information or an application, contact Gerald Wofford at: Muscogee Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447; (918) 756-8700, ext. 220; or e-mail: comm1@ocvnet.org

Higher education accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is accepting applications requests for the 2000-01 academic year.

Applicants must: possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood and tribal membership cards; be planning to attend an accredited two-year junior college of four-year university; and apply for federal financial aid at their college or university and complete the FAFSA form to be eligible for the higher education grant.

Applications will be mailed through May 31. Written requests for applications must be submitted. The deadline to apply for the self governance higher education grant is June 1. The tribal grant application closing date is June 15.

Continuing students on the program must submit current grade reports or transcripts and meet requirements to receive a renewal form. The renewal forms will be mailed March 1 and should be returned by June 1.

For more information, contact the higher education office at: (918) 756-8700; or 1 (800) 482-1979, exts. 614, 615, or 616.

Muscogee senior citizens hold meeting

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Senior Citizens held their monthly meeting on Feb. 2 at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center.

Those attending discussed: health and dental care; potential diabetes meetings at surrounding community centers; new housing for the elderly; and teaching quilting, beading, making ladies moccasins, Seminole patchwork, and silver jewelry making.

A planning session was held on the possibly of taking a trip to the National Council on Aging in Minnesota.

Next month's Muscogee Senior Citizens meeting will be held at 10 a.m., March 1 at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center.

Inauguration 2000 video available

OKMULGEE — The inauguration of Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver held on Jan. 8 is available on video tape.

Treasury department unveils Sacagawea coin

WASHINGTON — In December of 1997 President Bill Clinton signed into law the United States Dollar Coin Act. This act would require the U.S. Treasury Department to place into circulation a new one dollar coin. The coin, similar in size to the Susan B. Anthony one dollar coin, is different in that it has a golden color.

A committee was appointed to design this new dollar coin. After numerous committee meetings, proposals, and designs submitted, the committee recommended that the new dollar coin bear a design representing Sacagawea. Sacagawea was the young Shoshone woman who was instrumental in the Lewis and Clark

expedition. On May 4, 1999 the official unveiling ceremony of the Sacagawea dollar coin design was unveiled. The White House ceremony included First

Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, and U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert S. Rubin

Muscogee Citizen Michael John Anderson was among those present. Anderson serves as Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Indian Affairs.

Anderson, who grew up in the Oklahoma City area, is the son of Francis and Vernon Anderson. He is the nephew of Jorene and Charlie Coker. Anderson is

of the son of the Alligator Clan and Kvweta Tribal Town.



submitted photo
Anderson pictured with the Sacagawea dollar.

The cost is \$10 per video. Included on the video is the State of the Nation address delivered by Principal Chief Beaver on Feb. 1 and a Muscogee (Creek) Nation retrospect. The retrospect segment is the production that was shown during the inauguration ceremony.

For more information, contact Gerald Wofford at (918) 756-870, ext. 220.

Some Natives at greater risk for disease

ATLANTA — According to new data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Indians and Alaska Natives may be at greater risk from smoking related illnesses, diabetes, or motor vehicle injuries depending on where they live and whether they are male or female.

Analysis of data from the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, a monthly telephone survey of U.S. adults, found substantial differences among American Indians and Alaska Natives by geographic region and sex for three risk factors: current cigarette smoking; awareness of having diabetes; and not wearing a safety belt while driving or riding in a car.

According to the data, differences by region were: current cigarette smoking was most common in the Northern Plains (45 percent) and least common in the Southwest (22 percent); awareness of having diabetes was least common in Alaska (three percent); and not wearing a safety belt when driving or riding in a car was most common in the Northern Plains (54 percent) and least common on the Pacific Coast (19 percent).

According to the data, differences by sex were: Men (34.7 percent) were more likely than women (27.9 percent) to be current smokers; men (39.7 percent) were also at higher risk than women (30.5 percent) for not wearing a seatbelt when driving or riding in a car; and men (6.4 percent) were less likely than women (8.4 percent) to be aware of having diabetes.

The CDC authors believe that the risk factors among American Indians and Alaska Natives may be higher than reported because 23 percent of the

native population do not have telephones.

Smoking related illness, diabetes, and motor vehicle injuries are major causes of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives.

State provides funding to local districts

OKMULGEE — The State of Oklahoma has provided limited funding to local conservation districts to help landowners implement practices that protect soil and water resources.

Many of the counties have decided to offer ponds (new construction), pasture and hayland planting, and fencing as practices offered.

Cost share rates are generally 50 percent of the average cost, up to \$500. Each county throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will vary in the practices, percent, and cost-share offered.

Signup periods for each district vary.

For more information, contact John Rissler at (918) 756-8700, ext. 617 or a local county conservation district representative.

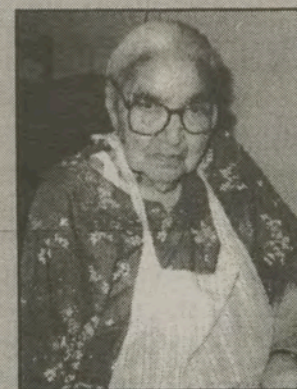
Senior services selects elder of the month

OKMULGEE — Susie Monday was selected as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services Elder of the Month.

Monday, age 92, was born south of Okmulgee in Tiger Flats on April 23, 1907 to Timmie Kendall and Louise Sloan.

She attends Big Cussetah Methodist Church and is a member of Kialegee Tribal Town. She enjoys making quilt tops and attending church.

Monday resides in the Creek Nation Elderly apartments in Okmulgee.



Monday

Programs-notice

Agency to conduct area committee elections

STILLWATER — The Farm Service Agency will conduct statewide Farm Service Agency area committee elections beginning on Feb. 24 through March 6.

According to Terry Peach, Farm Service Agency State Executive Director, Oklahoma producers are becoming more important as the number of farms in Oklahoma decline. The FSA committee is part of a vital link in providing effective, efficient, and impartial administration of farm programs and FSA activities needed in Oklahoma.

The Farm Service Agency area committee members are elected by eligible farmers in the local administrative area in their county. Committee members must be eligible voters and reside in the local administrative area in which they serve. Each committee in Oklahoma has from three to four members serving staggered, three-year terms.

To be an eligible voter in the FSA area committee election you must be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as an owner, operator, tenant, or sharecropper. Every member of a Native American tribe is an eligible voter if the tribe owns agricultural land or has agricultural land that is held in trust for the tribe by the United States.

For more information, contact the state FSA office at (405) 742-1040.

Annual Indian bowling tournament to be held

EDMOND — The 30th Annual Greater Oklahoma City Indian Bowling Tournament will be held on April 15 and 16 at AMF Boulevard Lanes located at 3501 S. Blvd.

The ABC-WIBC sanctioned event is sponsored by Pokko Cvleckv. The doubles and singles competition will be on April 15 with starting times at noon or 3 p.m. Team play will be on April 16 with starting times at 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. A time preference must be specified.

Entry fees for the tournament are: team, \$64; doubles, \$32; and singles, \$16. Fees include prize fund, bowling fees, and other expenses. The entry fee deadline is April 10.

On the spot cash prizes of \$5 and \$10 will be awarded to women who bowl a 225 to 229 game and a 230 and up game. Men bowling 240 to 249 and 250 and up will also receive a cash prize. Also, \$100 will be awarded to the first man or woman to bowl a 300 game.

Mail entries to: Colleen Larney, 6624 N.W. 123, Oklahoma City, OK 73142. For more information, call (405) 720-0811.

Gathering of Clans to be held at Salt Creek

SALT CREEK — A Gathering of Clans will be held at Salt Creek United Methodist Church on March 17 and 18.

Stories, games, and debates explaining the history and identity of each clan will be explored in the Mvskoke and English language during the meetings.

Stories shared during the meeting will be preserved for future reference on audio and video recorders.

Roberts recognized as tribal employee of the year

OKMULGEE — Danny Roberts, facilities manager, was recognized by tribal employees as the first recipient of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employee of the Year award.

Roberts tallied the highest vote total among 11 other candidates who were past employee of the month recipients. He was also featured in the 1998 October issue of *The Muscogee Nation News* as the first employee to receive the employee of the month award.

His co-workers consistently listed professional attributes of courteousness, loyalty, attendance and punctuality as the reason for nominating him employee of the year.

He and his wife Janelle have been married for 18 years and reside in Morris with their two sons, Daniel and Zachary. He has been employed with Creek Nation for 10 years.



photo by Lucas Taylor

Danny Roberts receives a certificate from Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver.

For more information, contact Fred Long at: 4313 N.W. 22nd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73107-2623; or (405) 949-2147.

Haskell Alumni Association plan celebration

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The National Haskell Alumni Association is planning a celebration for the year 2000 on May 11.

Haskell alumni, parents, and friends are invited to attend a cookout, entertainment show on campus, and an outstanding alumnus event. Past outstanding alumni

are encouraged to attend as special guests for the newly elected outstanding alumnus.

The Haskell Alumni Association requests donations to help fund the event. All donations should be made to the National Haskell Alumni Association/Haskell 2000.

Send donations to: Martha Houle, National Haskell Alumni Association President, 11415 W. 67th St., Shawnee Mission, KS 66203.

For more information, contact Martha Houle at (913) 631-7833.

Muscogee rap artist uses hip hop music to educate and unite

submitted article

DEWAR — The legacy of Muscogee Nation echoes forth from its tribal son Julian B. Hailing from Dewar, his mission is to enlighten the masses through education and heart-driven music.

Upon the encouragement of the multi-platinum-recording group, The Gap Band, Julian B. began writing from the perspective of a fullblood indigenous person. In 1990, after completing his studio work with The Gap Band, it became clear the Hip-Hop music would be taken to new and higher levels. In 1994, his first full-fledged album "Once Upon a Genocide" was released on Sound Of America Record's Warrior label. He has been gaining respect from true rap pioneers by sharing the stage with the likes of Chuck D. of Public Enemy, The Sugar Hill Gang, Tom B. of XIT, WAR, WOR, and now Grand Master Flash's Melle Mel has vowed to collaborate with Julian B. on his next project. Julian B. says hanging out with Jeru, Rage Against the Machine, Rakim, and Rahzel from the "Roots" crew, has only tightened his rap game humbly.

Some of the concerts that Julian B. has performed are: Apache Nation Unite concert; American Indian Movement anniversary celebration for three consecutive years; Indigenous People's Day concerts for four consecutive years; and many other American Indian functions including the Denver March Powwow. Julian B. has also donated much of his time to performing at benefit concerts for vari-

ous causes, such as the Zapatista movement and the struggles at Black Mesa. Some of Julian B.'s other accomplishments are receiving a nomination for best rap performance from the 1998 Native American Music Awards and a featured spot on the popular radio show Native America Calling.

In 1996 Julian B. worked with Eagle Lodge Youth and Family Prevention Services and the Nine Project for Indian education in Denver, Colo. Having received his state certification to do drug and alcohol prevention work, he feels he has a chance to walk "heads up" with Indian youth and teach them expression, sobriety and self-esteem through the arts and traditional ways of life.

Working with a vision driven by the spirits of his ancestors, his second album, "Wartorn," is currently in the works. Julian B. knows that he alone can't change the world. However, if he can help to strengthen and unify Indian people as well as educate non-Indian people about the indigenous people of this land, then the Red Road will be traveled with greater immortality.

For booking information write: Hey Julian B., P.O. Box 304, Dewar, OK 74431; or call (440) 933-8662 or (918) 652-8938.

Local artists that are interested in having demos produced may inquire at 652-8938

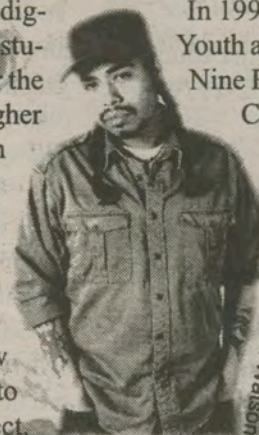


photo by Kevin Watson

Education-society

Citizen receives Ph.D in marine geology

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Lewis A. Land received a Ph.D in marine geology on Dec. 18 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he had attended on a fellowship grant for minority students.

His focus of study was the effects of ground water circulation within the continent margins of the southeastern United States.

Lewis had previously received both bachelor of science and master's degrees in petroleum geology from the University of Oklahoma.

He will be applying for a post-doctoral research position — analyzing seismic data from the East China Sea. If he is funded, the project will start in July and last for two years. He is a lab supervisor in the geology department at the university currently and has taught introductory geology to 189 students.

Lewis is the son of Helen Land of Sapulpa and the late Norman Land. He is the grandson of the late Rev. and Mrs. Knaustaway Land of Sapulpa.

Careers

Citizen recognized for 31 years of service

OKLAHOMA CITY — Ruby Richburg was honored with a pin and certificate from the Commission of Rehabilitation Services for 31 years of service.

She has been employed as a direct care specialist and teacher aide since 1968 at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf in Sulphur.

She is the daughter of the late Charley and Annie Tiger of Wetumka.



Pictured with Richburg, third from left, are, left to right, Commissioners Robert Frost, David Pittman, and John Orr.

Citizen designs guitar straps for Fender

ANAHEIM HILLS, Calif. — Tribal citizen Dru WhiteFeather is a leather artisan and silversmith who currently works for Fender Guitars.

He designs guitar straps for their custom shop. WhiteFeather has hand-crafted accessories for a long list of musicians, including Bruce Springsteen, Metallica, and Waylon Jennings.

He is a descendent of Washa Stover



WhiteFeather

Arrivals

Jaden Adams

OKMULGEE — Jaden Na-shoh-ba He-loh-wa Dean Adams was born Sept. 18 at Okmulgee

Youth employment program to begin accepting applications

OKMULGEE — Applications for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Summer Youth Employment Program will be accepted beginning March 11.

Applications will be accepted beginning at 9 a.m., March 11 at Green Country Vo-Tech. From north Okmulgee it is located two miles east of U.S. Highway 75 on loop 56. It is advised that applicants arrive 20 minutes early. The application and orientation process will take approximately three hours.

Applications will also be accepted at 1:30 p.m. each Wednesday beginning March 15 at the Job Training Partnership Act Program office located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

When applying bring the following documentation:

- Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card;
- Social Security card;
- proof of income for the last six months (includes

income from employment, Social Security, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, etc.);

- verification of residence within Muscogee Nation tribal boundaries;

- proof of Selective Service registration for males ages 18 and over;

- copy of high school transcript, diploma, or GED — college students must bring a copy of their college transcript and documentation of financial aid;

- proof of age — applicants must be age 16 by June 5 and must not turn 22 years of age before July 28; and

- copy of Indian Health Service card verifying chart number or medical card from private insurance and name of physician.

For more information, call: (918) 756-8700; or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 622. College students may make alternate arrangements to apply by calling also.

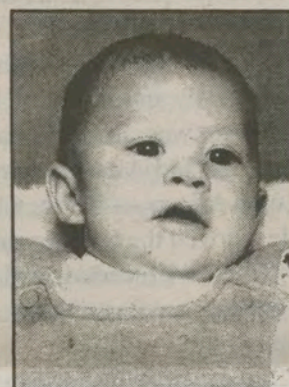
Memorial Hospital to Ryan and Nedra Adams of Morris.

He weighed 5 pounds and 13 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Carlin and Juanita "Pete" Thompson of Duck Creek.

Paternal grandparents are Donna Ingram of Eufaula and Dean Adams of Tucson, Arizona.

His maternal great-grandparents are July and the late Mae Tulsa of Duck Creek and Emily Dickerson of Ada.



Adams

Nathaniel Friday

TAHLEQUAH — Nathaniel Gabriel Friday was born Aug. 27 at W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital to Daneta Kaulay and Rayburn "Sarge" Friday.

He weighed 9 pounds and was 20 inches in length.

Paternal grandparents are Wilbur "Chebon" and Cheryl Gouge of Eufaula and Mike Friday of Casper, Wyo.

His maternal grandparents are Mary and Ira Kaulay Jr. of Checotah.

He belongs to the Racoon Clan and Eufaula Canadian Tribal Town.



Friday

Interests

Citizen completes Honolulu Marathon

HONOLULU, Hawaii — In December tribal citizen Ora Mae Harjo Day completed the Honolulu Marathon, raising \$3,200 for the Leukemia Society of America.

Day, a senior citizen, completed the marathon in eight hours and 48 minutes.

To prepare, Day committed herself to a six-day a week training schedule which began last July. In the last four years Day has taken an interest in her health and fitness. During this time, she has: walked in 15 five kilometer runs; and walked-ran in six 10 kilometer runs; and one 15 kilometer run. She trained for half of a marathon held in Tucson, Ariz. and completed it with a time of three hours and 15 minutes. Day entered the '98 Rock 'N' Roll Marathon in San Diego, Calif. and completed 15 miles in about four hours. Most of these runs raise money to research cures for specific diseases.

Day's next marathon

will be the Rock 'N' Roll Marathon in San Diego.

She will also be training for a run in Anchorage, Alaska in June 2001.

"Fellow people, look forward to receiving my request for donation in the early months of 2001 so that you can sponsor a Native American, female, senior citizen — or,

better yet, join the Leukemia Society Team in Training in your local area for a good cause."

Day resides in San Diego. She is the daughter of the late Rev. C.D. and Marie Harjo of Okemah.

Day



Day

Man top finisher in world's largest 10K

ATLANTA — Tribal citizen George F. Taylor was 155th among the masters men top finishers in the Peachtree Road Race 10K.

Taylor completed the race with a time of 41:01. The race is the largest 10,000 meter race in the world with 55,000 runners.

Taylor, of Kennesaw, Ga., is the son of Willie and Mary Gooden of Okmulgee.



Taylor

Obituaries-religion

REV. LEE CHUPCO

SALT CREEK — Funeral services for Rev. Lee Lindsey Chupco were held Jan. 20 at Salt Creek Methodist Church with Revs. Thomas Roughface officiating and David Wilson assisting.

Wake services were held January 18 at Fosters' Ivory Chapel in Muskogee and on Jan. 19 at the church.

He died Jan. 16 at Muskogee Regional Medical Center. Chupco was born Aug. 23, 1914 to Tomy and Hettie Bruner Chupco in Wewoka.

He was raised in Seminole County. He graduated from Mekusukey Indian School. He later graduated from Mountain View Public High School. In 1936 he married Helen Louise Palmer.

Chupco held a bachelor of arts degree from Oklahoma City University and a bachelor of divinity degree from Southern Methodist University, Perkin's School of Theology, Dallas, Texas. He was a graduate of a Hillcrest Medical Center program for intensive training in pastoral clinical work. He also completed coursework at: the University of Oklahoma; Oklahoma City University; and the University of Tulsa.

Chupco served as a Methodist minister in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference for 45 years. He was pastor at: Fife Memorial, Muskogee; Christ Methodist, Claremore; Witt Memorial, Tulsa; and Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist. He served as the northeast district superintendent for 10 years. He served as director of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference also. He retired in 1985, but continued serving as the part-time pastor of Locust Grove Church. He was a member of the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church also.

Chupco was known as a speaker, evangelist, and teacher to many groups in several states. He held revival meetings in many churches in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Michigan, etc. As a teacher, he taught in statewide schools of missions, pastor's schools, and many local churches in various areas. Lee worked with the Council of Churches and ministerial alliances in every town that he had lived in since 1945.

Chupco worked with the Oklahoma Indian Methodist Conference of 114 Indian churches in Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. He held the offices of treasurer, secretary, and was editor of a journal, in addition to serving numerous other offices and committees at various times. He served as a member of the National Committee of Human Relations in the United Methodist Church.

He founded the first Indian center in Tulsa and was instrumental in establishing a Creek Nation community center in Muskogee of which he served as president. He served on the Cookson Hill Center Board of Directors, Tahlequah.

Chupco is survived by: his wife of the home; son, James Chupco of Holdenville; daughter, Waukomis Lewis of Claremore; two grandchildren, Gary Lee Lewis and Sandra Louise Lewis, both of Claremore; four great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Edwin Marshall; Lyle Deere;

Famous Marshall; Fred Lindsey; Thomas Lindsey; and Charles McHenry.

Interment was at Holdenville Cemetery.

JOBIE FIELDS, SR.

TAHLEQUAH — Funeral services for Jobie Levi Fields Sr. were held Feb. 2 at Reed-Culver Funeral Home Chapel with Robert Riviera, Clan Mothers of Natchez Nation and family officiating and completing tribal ceremonies.

He died Jan. 28 in Stroud. He was born Jan. 13, 1934 in Weleetka to John Fields and Eliza Sourjohn Fields Sumpka. Fields belonged to the Bird Clan and Apeka Tullletakv Tribal Town.

He attended Jones Academy and received a degree in nursing from Bacone College. He later attended the University of California at Los Angeles, receiving a degree in fine arts. He worked: as a nurse; as a choreographer for the Los Angeles Fine Arts Theater; for Walt Disney on a number of productions; as a technical advisor for motion pictures; as a background artist in "Hawaii Five-O" as the fire-knife dancer. Fields played the part of Chief Maori in the film "In Search of the Castaways." He was a member of the "Sundowners" along with his long time friends Iron Eyes Cody and Jay Silverheels.

Fields was a traditional Native American of the Natchez and Alabama-Koasatie tribes and served as Lujah Micco — Turtle Chief — of Natchez Nation. He enjoyed the outdoors and hunting trips in Canada.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; son, Tommy; brother, O'keefe Sumpka; and sister, Rita Sumpka.

Fields is survived by: niece, Sonja Fields Harbaugh of Muskogee; three sons, K.T. "Hutke" Fields of Weleetka, Jobie Fields Jr. of Stilwell, and Jimmy Fields of El Reno; brothers, Richard Gillard of Sand Springs, Albert Fields and Paul Sumpka of Muskogee, Roger Fields of Okmulgee, and Jim Fields; sisters, Johnetta Rabbit of Okmulgee and Nancy Parnosky; 11 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Nano Fields; Travis Fields; Kevin Fields; Aaron Sumpka; Ken Franklin; and Robert Riviera.

Honorary pallbearers were: Raymond Meely and Steve Moreno.

Interment was at Greenleaf Cemetery.

HOMER JACOBS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Homer Lee "Dougie" Jacobs were held Feb. 1 at Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Wake services were held Jan. 30 at Robert Simons Funeral Home and on Jan. 31 at the church.

Jacobs died Jan. 28 at Tulsa Regional Hospital. He was born Dec. 30, 1953 in Tahlequah to Betty Tiger Jacobs and the late Sam Jacobs.

Jacobs lived in the Henryetta area all of his life. He was a general laborer.

He was preceded in death by his father and one brother, George Jacobs.

He is survived by: his wife, Rita Jacobs, of Sapulpa; his mother of Tulsa; two brothers, Reuben Harjo and Frank Jacobs, both of Tulsa; two sisters, Nadine Francisco and Irene Jacobs, both of Tulsa; Rhonda Chandler of Tulsa; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Barney Jacobs; Kevin Miguel; Leroy Francisco; Robert Jacobs; Paul Jacobs; and David Jacobs.

Honorary pallbearers were: Joe Bear; Sid Barnes; and Wallace Gambler Jr.

Interment was at the Jacobs Family Cemetery.

MARY SHIRLEY

OKMULGEE — Funeral service for Mary "Bonnie" Elizabeth Shirley were held Jan. 20 at Belvin Baptist Church with Rev. Wayne Taryole officiating.

She died Jan. 17. She was born Nov. 28, 1936 in Lawton to Wilmott Scott and Melissa Tiger McCoy. She married Thomas Shirley on March 22, 1962.

Shirley was a member of Belvin Baptist Church. She was a self-taught woman whose specialty was working from her home as a seamstress and craft painter. She enjoyed teaching her skills to interested students and was always looking for ways to improve her crafts. She will be remembered for her gentleness, kindness, and her love of God and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a son, Michael Shirley.

She is survived by: her husband of the home; daughter, Debra Mosquito of Mounds; son, Timothy Shirley of Okmulgee; six grandchildren, Jacob, Shan-Dea, Jarod, and Jayce Mosquito, Ashley and Andrew Shirley; two great-granddaughters, Alexandria Mosquito and Michaela Carr; seven sisters, Pat Kelly, Joyce McMahon, Cecilia Noble, Diane Hunt, Jenice Tilley, Alice Locust, and Becky Humphrey; two brothers, Doug Scott and Melvin McCoy Jr.; and many other friends and relatives.

Pallbearers were: Timothy Shirley; Jacob Mosquito; Ron McIntosh; Roger McIntosh; Jason Tilley; and Ben Tilley.

Honorary pallbearers were: Jarod Mosquito; Mike McIntosh; Bryan McGertt; Ryan Bunner; and Michael Jimboy.

Interment was at Morris Cemetery.

HAZEL TIGER

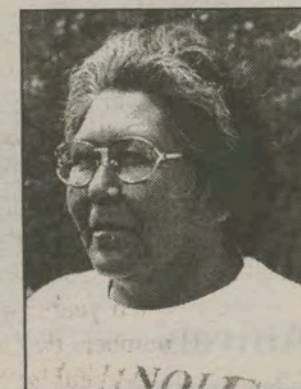
BRISTOW — Funeral services for Hazel Inez Bucktrot Jones Tiger were held Dec. 31 at the residence of the Bucktrot Family with words of comfort offered by ceremonial ground leaders, family, and friends.

She died Dec. 28 at her home in Cromwell. She was born Jan. 6, 1938 in Claremore to Wysena Madison and Annie Brown Bucktrot.

Tiger received her education at Gypsy High School and attended Bacone College.



Shirley



Tiger

Flag

continued from page one

that often flags were given to the Japanese soldiers by their families. It wasn't uncommon for soldiers and civilians to wear the flags like bandannas. It was treated somewhat like the U.S. flag is treated today — in designs and clothing and so forth." Deere felt that this flag would in some way not only symbolize his personal war experiences, but help him to remember his comrades in his platoon. He would honor them by inscribing each of their names on the flag.

After the war was over, Deere would still serve in the Marines and see peace time duty in occupied Japan. While there he shipped his equipment, along with the flag, back home. His possessions were lost in shipment and ended up in a California government warehouse for a few years. Meanwhile, Deere's military duty was over and he returned to his hometown of Tulsa. "One day I received my equipment bag along with the Japanese flag I had thought it was lost for good." Deere and his family were grateful to have the flag back in their possession. Although the flag held special significance, often the children of the family could be found playing 'war' with it. "I didn't realize how special it was," said Randy, Deere's son. "Dad didn't share many war stories with us back then, so we just didn't know."

Flag officially presented to Marine Corp at Parris Island

PARRIS ISLAND, S.C. — An official presentation of the Japanese flag that Herman Deere captured during Battle of Iwo Jima was made to the U.S. Marine Corps on Feb. 25.

The ceremony will occur just five days after the 55th anniversary of the landing of the U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima. The historic flag was officially given to the Marine Corp during the daily ceremony of Morning Colors. Private First Class Jeffrey D. Flick, the nephew of Mike Flick, accepted the flag from Herman Deere and other members of his platoon. Private Flick then presented the flag to Commanding General Stephen A. Cheney.

The flag will be displayed inside the World War II exhibit of the Marine Corps Museum.

After a while, Deere decided he wanted to have the flag framed and showcased. In 1951, he loaned it to a person on the condition that they would eventually frame it for him and return it.

Because there was no urgency to the matter, Deere eventually forgot about the transaction. The flag and the person never returned. Deere would forget about the flag, believing it was gone for good, until a telephone call came in 1998.

Tulsa Mike Flick, a former Marine and Vietnam Veteran, contacted Deere and told him that he had the flag in his possession. Flick was contacted by Mike Fretz, a Tulsa home-builder, who had discovered the flag lying in a box in an old home in the Tulsa refinery district.

Mike Flick recalls being contacted by Fretz, "when Mike Fretz contacted me and told me what he had discovered, I was in total shock. 'Do you realize what you have in your possession?,' I told him. Well, he

gave it to me, realizing that I knew how special this item was. I wanted to make sure that it was authentic and had the flag examined under an electron microscope. The test confirmed that it was made of Japanese silk warp and weave and had stains of human blood."

The flag was also authenticated by the U.S. Ma-

rine Corps Historical Center in Washington, D.C.

Flick noticed the inscriptions on the flag. "I began to read the names on the flag and knew I needed to make an effort to try and locate and contact each person. Perhaps it belonged to one of them." Eventually, Flick's quest led him to Deere and the mystery was solved.

Flick returned the flag to Deere. Although Deere was grateful to have the item back in his possession, and Flick felt honored to return it to him, they both felt that it should be shared with others. "I contacted the U.S. Marine Corps base at Parris Island, South Carolina," Flick said. "They said they would be more than happy to receive it and put it on permanent display in their U.S. Marine Corps Museum."

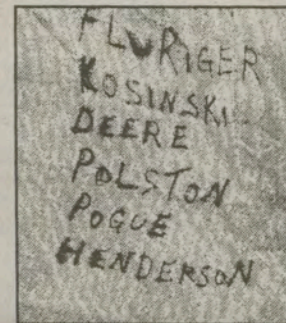
Herman Deere is glad that the flag will be displayed and serve as a reminder to present and future generations to never forget the ultimate sacrifices that were made by many brave men.

Although there may have been others present, Deere and Pima Tribal Member Ira Hayes are the only known American Indians present at the historic moment the American flag was raised on Mt. Suribachi. Hayes, of course, was one of the six Marines who raised the flag atop the mountain. Deere remembers that special moment.

"I was only a few feet from the flag raising, there were battleships and guns shooting and men yelling and celebrating. We knew it was a great event to have the flag waving, we just didn't know how special the moment would be in history."



Deere pictured with members of his mortar platoon. He is pictured on the first row, second from the right.



The names of platoon members inscribed by Deere

Census

continued from page one

tribal count, but for greater assistance to all American Indians.

"It's time to be counted," said Principal Chief Beaver. "As far as Native America goes, it's really essential that we be counted, because our funding for our services is based on our population — how many citizens we have in our area or tribal jurisdictional area. So it's really important that we stand up and be counted."

Not only will tribes benefit from the Census count, but the state of Oklahoma will benefit as well.

"Over the next ten years, [the Census Bureau] will give you the fruit of that information. In terms of money and power coming back to the state of Oklahoma — we're talking about political representation. You don't want to lose it; we don't want you to lose it, but we need a full count of everyone in order to insure that you get what's deserving for the state. Two-hundred billion dollars a year, two-trillion dollars over the next ten years [will be] distributed on the basis of the numbers that we'll get in the next Census.... This is an awful lot of money and you need to get your fair share," Kansas City Area Regional Di-



photo by Gerald Wofford

Pictured, left to right, at the Tulsa office opening are: Andrew Skeeter, Tulsa area Census Bureau manager; Curtis Zunigha, Census liaison to tribes; Tulsa Mayor Susan Savage; and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver

cally. Curtis Zunigha, Delaware, serves as a liaison between the Census Bureau and Indian tribes. Zunigha believes that there is still mistrust among many Ameri-

can Indians when it comes to anything to do with the federal government, but he feels that this is a great opportunity for tribes to benefit.

He has encouraged tribes to take control of this effort by building partnerships with the federal government.

He suggests tribes do this by "...taking the jobs that they're going to be paying someone else to do anyway and then going out and conducting your own census under the umbrella of the U.S. Census Bureau. While the federal government is standing there saying 'we're not really sure how to work with Indian country, we need some help' — Indian country should respond by saying 'alright, we're gonna come in, we're gonna hire the Census people, we're gonna use our own people to go out there.' [Tribal peoples] know how to connect with our communities better."

Zunigha adds that the tribes will be allowed to use Census statistics to obtaining grants and tribal assistance.

The official census day will be April 1, but the forms will become available beginning in March.

For more information contact: (888) 325-7733; or in the Tulsa area, 582-1296.

Those Who Speak the World Into Place: **The Alexander Posey Literary Festival**

Encouraging and Supporting the Creativity of Mvskoke (Creek) students
Sponsored by Atlatl, Inc., Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award, Creek Nation
Festival and Joy Harjo

In honor of the celebrated Muscogee (Creek) poet and journalist Alexander Posey, a creative writing contest designed to encourage the creativity of Muscogee (Creek) Nation's young people is announced for first through twelfth grade students.

Students' writings in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction will be judged for originality, freshness of language, and overall excellence. Entries are encouraged to be written in the Mvskoke language; awards will be distributed for submissions in both English and Mvskoke languages. The best work in each genre from elementary, middle, and high school will be awarded first, second, and third place. First place entries will be published in the May and-or June issues of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Contest rules:

- any student enrolled in first through twelfth grades who is a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen may enter;
- submissions will be accepted in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction categories. Students may apply in more than one genre, however only one entry in each category will be accepted;
- a maximum of five pages of poetry and twelve pages of fiction and nonfiction will be accepted from each student;
- double-spaced typed entries are preferable, however handwritten items will be accepted if legible. Do not send original copies as entries cannot be returned;
- entries must include student's name, address, phone, grade, proof of Muscogee (Creek) tribal citizenship (either photo copy or roll number), school and teacher's name; and
- entries must be postmarked by April 7, 2000. Winners will be notified by May 12, 2000.

Entries must be addressed to:

Ahniwake Webb, Atlatl, Inc., P.O. Box 34090, Phoenix, AZ 85067-4090

For additional information contact Ahniwake Webb (602) 277-3711

*Awards will be distributed at a reception in honor of the young awardees and judges at 7 p.m.
June 15, 2000 Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. The event will mark the opening
of the Creek Nation Festival.*

Obituaries-religion

continued from page eight

She married Joe Jones in 1954. She later married Tema Tiger in September 1978 in Bristow.

Tiger worked in the dry-cleaning business as a presser in both Bristow and Oklahoma City.

She was a member of Sand Creek Ceremonial Ground and was one of few remaining full-blood Yuchi Indians. A member of the Deer Clan, she believed in keeping her native traditions alive. She often assisted her husband, Tema, demonstrate making turtle shell shackles as well as aspects of tribal ceremonies. She believed in passing tribal traditions to youth and traveled to many schools in Oklahoma, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida teaching her native traditions.

She was preceded in death by: her first husband and her second husband; her parents; three brothers, Wade, Alvin, and Tony Bucktrot; and two sisters, Susannah Wilson and Alice Wheeler.

She is survived by: one daughter, Amy Yargee; two sisters, Pheobe Jones of Claremore and Ruth Crittenden of Stilwell; three grandchildren, Sharon Yargee of Wetumka, Gayle Yargee of Tulsa, and Esther Yargee of the home; two great-grandchildren, Joshua Roberts and Cynda Factor; and many other friends and relatives.

Pallbearers were: Charles Jones; Arlen Bucktrot; Jason Sawyer; Danny Wheeler; Lester Bucktrot; Robert Bucktrot; and Sam Bucktrot.

Honorary pallbearers were: Jerry Bucktrot; Amos McNac; George Factor; Newman Littlebear; Gilbert Scott; and Daniel Talamasey.

Interment was at the Bucktrot Family Cemetery.

TEMA TIGER

CROMWELL — Funeral services for Tema Tiger were held Oct. 4 at the residence of Alice Mac with words of comfort offered by ceremonial ground leaders.

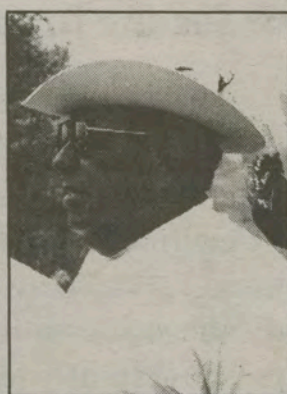
He died October 1 in Shawnee Regional Hospital. Tiger was born Feb. 19, 1934 in Seminole County to Harry and Nettie Bell.

Tiger received his elementary and secondary education at Sequoyah and Butner schools. He married Hazel Bucktrot in September 1978 in Bristow.

Tiger worked for the city of Shawnee for 15 years. He was a member of Fishpond Tribal Ground and the Alligator Clan. He was proud to be both Muscogee and Seminole. He believed in keeping tradition alive by making ballsticks and attending traditional ceremonies. He believed in passing the tradition on to younger people. He would travel to different schools in Georgia, Alabama, and Florida teaching people about Muscogee and Seminole traditions.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Francis Cosar.

He is survived by: his wife; five daughters, Stella Lovings, Nettie Tiger, Wynette Tiger, Amy Yargee, and Nora Camos, all of Oklahoma City; sisters, Eliza



Tiger

State of the Nation

continued from page four

tration under the executive branch. Another exciting development in health currently, is receiving an Indian Health Service grant to explore the feasibility of going self-governance in health, as we are in our Bureau of Indian Affairs programs. This would be a great move for us as it would create opportunities to design our own programs.

On the technological front, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation passed Y2K without a glitch. A committee had been formed earlier in the year to address Y2K compliance and we came through with flying colors and I might add that the National Council passed the "Y2K Compliance Certification" legislation submitted by the executive branch. Our management information systems department reports that the majority of the tribal offices here at the complex are now on-line with the Internet, with more being added daily. However, it is still the goal of this administration to not stop until we have all of the chartered Creek communities on-line with us.

On the national front, I continue to pursue the exercise of tribe's sovereignty through frequent trips to the nation's capitol, speaking out and on behalf of the issues that involve the tribe — and I continue to keep

Wind of Cromwell and Rhina Bell of Shawnee; two brothers, Leon Bell and Kelly Bell, both of Shawnee; 14 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and many other friends and relatives.

Pallbearers were: Thomas Mack; Felix Mack; Steven Orr; Kevin Mack; Darrin Mack; and Robert Fixico.

Honorary pallbearers were: Tarpie Yargee; Frank Lena; Lester Bucktrot; George Factor; Randy King; and Jerry Haney.

Interment was at the Mack-Bell Family Cemetery.

Religion

Tookparfka Baptist holding March revival

CALVIN — Tookparfka Baptist Church is holding a revival March 27 through 31 beginning at seven nightly.

The evangelist is Don Tiger.

The church is located five miles south of Horntown on highway 75 and three miles east.

First Denny gospel singing being held

GLENPOOL — The first Denny Gospel Singing will be held at 7 p.m., March 11 at Glenpool Creek Indian Community Activity Center.

For more information, call (918) 322-3385 or (918) 827-5785.

Tafvmpece dinners

Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church

TULSA — Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church is holding a wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 4.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children ages one to 11.

the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the forefront in national Indian issues through my appointment by Assistant Secretary Kevin Gover. Recently, the tribe, assisted by the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, hosted a tribal leaders meeting with Rep. Patrick Kennedy, who has been an outspoken friend to Indian nations. I will continue to these roles as the second session of the 106th Congress gets underway. This work will be crucial with the national elections coming up in November.

One of the main accomplishments of this past year was the dedication and groundbreaking of the Muscogee War Memorial. This could not have been accomplished without the hard work and vision of the Committee of Four and the efforts of the former Second Chief George Almerigi.

In summary, I encourage the National Council to work with the administration toward a common goal of mutual respect and cooperation and the desire to provide the best services we can to all Creek citizens. Thank You.

Editor's note: The annual State of the Nation address of Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry was printed in its entirety. The tribal Constitution, at Article 5, section 4, requires the principal chief to deliver the speech every year.

The church is located at 8815 E. 101st St.

For more information, call Teddy McHenry at (918) 234-3858.

Salt Creek United Methodist Church

SALT CREEK — Salt Creek United Methodist Church is holding an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 4 at Holdenville Indian Community Center.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children ages 10 and under.

Big Cussetah Methodist Church

MORRIS — Big Cussetah Methodist Church is holding its annual all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 18.

The cost is \$6 for adults and carry-outs and \$3 for children ages 12 and under.

For more information, call Miley Hargiss at (918) 299-2135.

Concharty United Methodist Church

CONCHARTY — Concharty United Methodist Church is holding its annual all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., March 25.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 10 and under.

Muscogee Community Senior Action Group

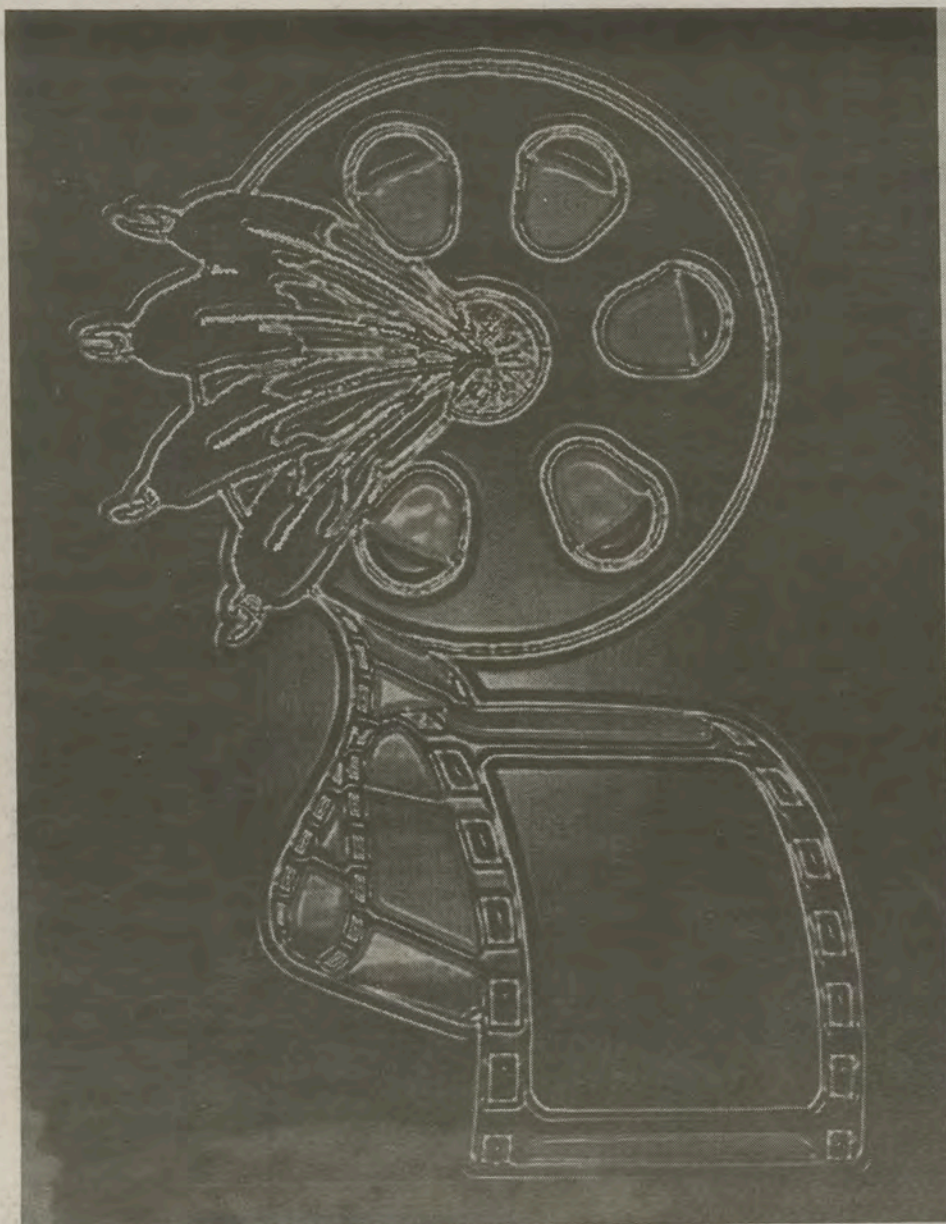
MUSKOGEE — Muscogee Indian Community Senior Action Group is holding a wild onion dinner on March 25.

The cost is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 8 and under.

The center is located at 111 S. Virginia.

**Tune in to the
Muscogee Nation Radio Program
at 9:30 a.m. each Wednesday on
Okmulgee's
KOKL AM 1240**

beadwork by Jeana Kelly



Native American Film Scholarship

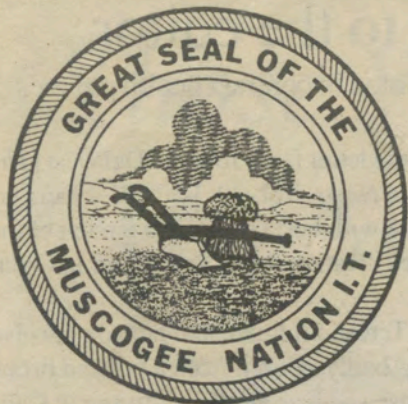
**The \$500 scholarship will be awarded by
the Muscogee Film Festival
in June 2000 for the fall semester.**

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- must be a member of a federally recognized tribe;
- must submit his/her Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card with the scholarship application;
- must be an enrolled college sophomore, junior, senior, or pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in film/video production or related subject at a university or college; and
- must have a 3.0 grade point average or above.

**For more information or an application contact
Gerald Wofford at:**

**Muscogee Nation Communications Department
P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447
(918) 756-8700, ext. 220 or e-mail:
comm1@ocevnet.org**



The Muscogee Nation News

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Volume 29, Issue 3

P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

March 2000, 8 pages

Film festival scholarship seeks aspiring native visual artists

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Film Festival is offering a Native American Film Scholarship native artists enrolled in four-year colleges and universities.

The \$500 scholarship will be awarded in June for the fall semester.

Applicants must:

- be a member of a federally recognized tribe;
- submit his or her Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card with the scholarship application
- must be an enrolled college sophomore, junior, senior, or pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in film or video production or related subject at a university or college; and
- have a 3.0 grade point average or above.

The application must be postmarked by June 31.

The scholarship is being administered by the Muscogee Nation Communications Department for its Muscogee Film Festival.

For more information or an application, contact Gerald Wofford at: Muscogee Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447; (918) 756-8700, ext. 220; or e-mail: comm1@ocevnet.org

Spirit Fest 2000

Second day of fasting and prayer to be held

OKMULGEE — The second day of fasting and prayer — "Spirit Fest 2000" will be held April 1 in the old dining hall located in the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building, Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex.

The beginnings of Spirit Fest originated last year when Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver proclaimed the day in his 1999 State of the Nation Address.

The coordination of the first tribal day of fasting and prayer was undertaken by Rev. Jimmy "Bunny" Hill. A special presentation will be made in the honor of Hill who passed away in June 1999.

This year the event is being coordinated by Morning Star Ministries and Bearers of the Cross, a community outreach group from Okmulgee.

The agenda is as follows:

- 6 to 8 a.m. — Intercessory prayer
- 8:05 a.m. — Assembly of shofars (horns), Donnie McNac and Larry Brown
- 8:30 a.m. — Maskoke song, Bearers of the Cross
- 9 a.m. — The Lord's Prayer in Indian sign language, Sapulpa Indian Education students
- 9:30 a.m. — Welcome, Muscogee Nation Principal

Chief R. Perry Beaver

- 10 a.m. — Cherokee Nation tribal song and prayer

- 11 a.m. — Choctaw Nation tribal song and prayer

- noon — Chickasaw Nation tribal song and prayer

- 1 p.m. — Seminole Nation tribal song and prayer

- 2 p.m. — Recognition of tribal elders George Bunny and Harry Long

- Memorial dedication and presentation in honor of the late Thomas Berryhill Jr. and Jimmy Hill

- 3 p.m. — Yuchi Tribe,

children's singing and prayer

- 4 p.m. — Recognition of ceremonial ground chiefs

- 5 p.m. — Dinner at the Okmulgee elders' nutrition center

The coordinators of this event request that people proclaim unity among Native American peoples by: turning on their porch or car lights; ringing church bells; blowing church horns; and whooping at the ceremonial grounds at 8:05 a.m., April 1.

The tribal complex is located at U.S. Highway 75 and state loop 56.

For more information, contact Betty Pulver, Morning Star Ministries, at (918) 366-6735.

What: Muscogee Nation Day of Fasting and Prayer

Where: tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and state loop 56

When: begins at 8 a.m., April 1

Maskoke pianist comes a long way from childhood days at Salt Creek church

Timothy George Long has come a long way from childhood days when he relished sitting close to Salt Creek Methodist Church pianist Hettie Long — taking in every move of her fingers on the piano keys.

His love and dedication to music has led him to varied accomplishments from performing concerti with the Sociedad Filarmonica de Conciertos Orchestra of Mexico City to his recent appointment as assistant conductor of the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra.

From infancy, his parents noticed that he had a preference for toys with musical sounds. "When he was about two, he pretended that a cardboard box was a piano and placed a hymn book on the box and raced his fingers over the edge pretending that it was a keyboard," his mother, Stella Long, said.

Shortly after his imaginative musical display on the cardboard box, his aunt, Cindy Long, bought him a toy piano. By the time Tim was three, his first toy piano was so worn that it had to be replaced. When he was five years old, his grandfather's (George Long) old upright piano was moved into the family home and he began taking piano lessons



Tim at age three

from Holdenville High School senior Cindy Harkins. When Tim was in the sixth

Long to perform in city

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Music Series is winding up the last performance of the season when Holdenville-born Pianist and Conductor Timothy Long returns to Oklahoma City to perform Dvorak and Schumann piano concerto with the Chicago-based Pacifica String Quartet at 4 p.m., April 19.

The admission is \$12 for adults and \$6 for students. The performance will be held at Christ the King Church located at 8005 Dorset Drive.

at playing many, his mother said.

Long graduated from Oklahoma City University magna cum laude, and has a please see **LONG...**, page 7

grade Harkins referred him to an Oklahoma City University teacher, saying that he needed advanced teaching.

As a young student, Tim was interested in all musical instruments and became accomplished



Long

Muscogee poets latest book of poems recently released by W.W. Norton

Poised at the outset of the new millennium, "A Map the Next World" chronicles the experience of one of our most acclaimed contemporary poets — as both woman and Native American — and pitches it against the cruelty of history.

In so doing, Harjo charts a map of hard-won survival for the coming century. The title poem, a sage guide of life-instruction, bears the reminder that there is no beginning or end to our journey, that each of us must draw his or her own map. What follows this wisdom is more than a collection of poetry; it is a skilled cartography of Harjo's own life: the carefully wrought longitudes of her testimony as a woman, a writer, and a Native American, drawn in sharp contrast to the latitudes of a post-colonial world history.

Images of war and sun, invasion and retreat, monsters and migration flutter across these pages like the shadow of a tattered flag: crows, dogs, and ghosts lurk throughout, thematically linking the three sections of the book. Harjo takes on political and cultural philosophies from Hawaii, Vietnam, and Native America, and

many poems in the collection shimmer with an iridescent anger in the face of the would-be oppressor. Other poems examine the deep solace of the connection between humans and nature, and praise the poetry that sings in all things — from the banana tree to the garden hose. Interspersed among the poems are more contemplative prose tales offering a private, meditative glimpse of the poet herself. Sometimes these prose sections resonate as parables in which Harjo examines the lives of animals with the prophetic eye of a 21st century Aesop. Always, the prose pieces elucidate a preceding poem. Harjo fixes details from her map, surveying all angles: personal; poetic; mythological. Like the most skilled mapmaker, she renders her discoveries with truth and precision, gleaned from the bright turnings of her mind.

In this new book, Harjo locates the devastation in an oppressed people and gives name to the murky

please see **HARJO**..., page 7

Maskoke writer argues native text should be judged by communities, not through evaluation by dominant culture

In an unconventional and piercingly humorous appeal, Craig S. Womack's "Red on Red Native American Literary Separatism" creates a dialogue between essays on Native literature and fictional letters from Creek characters who comment on the essays. Through this conceit, Womack demonstrates an alternative approach to American Indian literature, with the letters serving as a "Creek chorus" that offers answers to the questions raised in his more traditional essays. Topics range from a comparison of contemporary oral versions of Creek stories and the translations of those stories dating back to the early 20th century, to queer reading of Cherokee author Lynn Rigg's play "The Cherokee Night."

Indian communities have their own intellectual and cultural traditions that are well equipped to analyze Native literary production. These traditions should be the eyes through which the texts are viewed. To ana-

lyze a Native text with the methods currently dominant in the academy, according to the author, is like studying the stars with a magnifying glass.

Womack argues that the meaning of works by Native peoples inevitably changes through evaluation by the dominant culture. "Red on Red" is a call for self-determination on the part of Native writers and a demonstration of an important new approach to studying Native works — one that engages not only the literature, but also the community from which the work grew.

Craig S. Womack is assistant professor of Native American studies at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, Canada. He is Muscogee and Cherokee.

ISBN 0-8166-3023-2, 288 pages, \$18.95; University of Minnesota Press, c/o Chicago Distribution Center, 11030 S. Langley Ave., Chicago IL 60628

Book review

The Invasion of Indian Country in the Twentieth Century

Oklahoma Indian Times

by Geoffrey M. Standing Bear, P.C.

This is serious reading not just for anyone interested in the history and culture of the Native peoples of this land, but also for those who want to understand important considerations of the impact of the culture and economics of a foreign system upon indigenous peoples.

Fortunately, this book is written so that the general public may find it enjoyable, if not somewhat disturbing reading. Yet, Donald L. Fixico has somehow been able to craft his text into a work that would certainly qualify as a scholarly work suitable for reading in college courses on American history, economics, cultural anthropology, or American Indian Studies.

The image of the U.S. Calvary attacking a relatively

defenseless village of Native peoples is well recognized in American culture, but "The Invasion of Indian Country in the Twentieth Century" details an equally insidious encroachment into the lands, natural resources, and very social fabric of Indian tribes and nations. The invasion is accomplished by and through the system of American capitalism and its companion elements of federal policy, reward for profits, need for expansion, and exploitation of land and resources. This book shows what has happened to those people who, after the "Indians wars," were generally weaker, less educated, and unfamiliar with the ways of that invading economic system and the

please see **INVASION**..., page 7

Letters to the editor

Lady disappointed in contract health policies

Editor:

After reading the letter from Johnnie DePriest [*The Muscogee Nation News*, Vol. 29, Issue 1], I can certainly sympathize with her. I, too, am a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, born and raised in Oklahoma.

My daughter, Teresa Stidman, and her son are also citizens. She was badly injured from a fall and broke both legs. Because she was alone and living in California with a six year old to take care of, I brought her back to Oklahoma. She was treated and taken care of in a hospital in California, but needed follow-up care immediately after arriving in Oklahoma. I thought Muscogee Nation [Contract Health Services] could do that, but she did not reside here so they wouldn't take care of her. It was only a matter of around \$500, but they wouldn't consider it. My feelings are: if you're a citizen of Muscogee Nation, then they should take care of [you] regardless of where [you] live. There certainly needs to be some changes made in emergency cases.

Like in DePriest's case, I hope there are some red faces at Muscogee Nation because outside help has to be called on to help her and Muscogee Nation cannot take care of their own.

Martha G. Davis, Mounds

please see **LETTERS**..., page 7

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Lucas Taylor, graphic design
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, circulation

Those Who Speak the World Into Place: **The Alexander Posey Literary Festival**

Encouraging and Supporting the Creativity of Mvskoke (Creek) students
Sponsored by Atlatl, Inc., Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award, Creek Nation
Festival and Joy Harjo

In honor of the celebrated Muscogee (Creek) poet and journalist Alexander Posey, a creative writing contest designed to encourage the creativity of Muscogee (Creek) Nation's young people is announced for first through twelfth grade students.

Students' writings in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction will be judged for originality, freshness of language, and overall excellence. Entries are encouraged to be written in the Mvskoke language; awards will be distributed for submissions in both English and Mvskoke languages. The best work in each genre from elementary, middle, and high school will be awarded first, second, and third place. First place entries will be published in the May and-or June issues of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Contest rules:

- any student enrolled in first through twelfth grades who is a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen may enter;
- submissions will be accepted in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction categories. Students may apply in more than one genre, however only one entry in each category will be accepted;
- a maximum of five pages of poetry and twelve pages of fiction and nonfiction will be accepted from each student;
- double-spaced typed entries are preferable, however handwritten items will be accepted if legible. Do not send original copies as entries cannot be returned;
- entries must include student's name, address, phone, grade, proof of Muscogee (Creek) tribal citizenship (either photo copy or roll number), school and teacher's name; and
- entries must be postmarked by April 7, 2000. Winners will be notified by May 12, 2000.

Entries must be addressed to:

Ahniwake Webb, Atlatl, Inc., P.O. Box 34090, Phoenix, AZ 85067-4090

For additional information contact Ahniwake Webb (602) 277-3711

Awards will be distributed at a reception in honor of the young awardees and judges at 7 p.m. June 15, 2000 Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. The event will mark the opening of the Creek Nation Festival.

Programs-notices

Office of child care offers degree program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care and Bacone College is offering an associate's degree program at the office of child care training center.

The program allows individuals to obtain an associate's of science degree in child development or general studies. Classes will be held two evenings a week.

The spring semester began Feb. 22 with 17 students enrolled. The summer session will start June 12.

The program is open to tribal employees and Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

Muscogee senior citizens hold meeting

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Senior Citizens held their monthly meeting April monthly meeting at 10 a.m., April 5 in Eufaula.

Their March meeting was held at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center. Guest speakers at the meeting were: Fran Walder, Green Thumb Program; John Rissler, United States Department of Agriculture conservationist; David Moore, Creek Nation Housing Authority; and Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee District Representative to the National Council.

Those interested in attending the National Council on Aging Conference to be held Aug. 19 through 22 in Duluth, Minn. may obtain applications from the tribal Senior Services office. The applications must be returned by May 1.

For more information, contact Grona after 1 p.m. at (918) 756-8700.

Higher education accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is accepting applications requests for the 2000-01 academic year.

Applicants must: possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood and tribal membership cards; be planning to attend an accredited two-year junior college or four-year university; and apply for federal financial aid at their college or university and complete the FAFSA form to be eligible for the higher education grant.

Applications will be mailed through May 31. Written requests for applications must be submitted. The deadline to apply for the self governance higher education grant is June 1. The tribal grant application closing date is June 15.

Continuing students on the program must submit current grade reports or transcripts and meet requirements to receive a renewal form. The renewal forms will be mailed March 1 and should be returned by June 1.

For more information, contact the higher education office at: (918) 756-8700; or 1 (800) 482-1979, exts. 614, 615, or 616.

Tax commission moves to new location

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission is now located at 1523 S. Wood Drive.

Its hours of operation are from 9 a.m. through 4

Slinker selected as December employee of the month

OKMULGEE — Chuck Slinker, facilities maintenance worker, was selected as Muscogee (Creek) Nation's December employee of the month.

Slinker's duties consist of maintenance of the tribal complex grounds and buildings.

He is an active member of Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground. Slinker is a graduate of Liberty Mounds High School. He is the son Grace Slinker of Hectorville and the grandson of the late John and Alice Brown of the Duck Creek area. He is of Euchee-Maskoke-Choctaw descent.

He enjoys playing volleyball as well as watching his nine year old nephew, Corey Slinker, play sports.

Slinker resides in Okmulgee and has been employed with the Muscogee Nation since May 1998.

Slinker with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver



photo by Lucas Taylor

p.m., Monday through Friday. Cash, checks, and money orders are accepted.

Oklahoma University to host tribal seminars

NORMAN — The Native American Studies Program, a unit of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oklahoma, will serve as host for the first of four millennium tribal government seminars.

The agenda for the first seminar, scheduled March 27, will focus on tribal governments and their needs in tribal governance.

Keynote speaker Rennard Strickland, dean of the University of Oregon Law School, will focus his presentation on the issues and concerns of tribal courts in relation to policy development — economic, education, and jurisdiction.

Other invited speakers include: Richard Monette of the University of Wisconsin Law School; William Rice of Tulsa University; and Chad Smith, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.

Kirke Kickingbird, director of the Oklahoma Indian Legal Center at Oklahoma City University, will be the keynote luncheon speaker.

The seminars will be held in Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave. and are open to the general public. The registration is \$15, which includes the luncheon and seminar materials.

For more information and to preregister, contact Shalia Newby at (405) 325-2312.

Application for honoring nations released

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government released its 2000 application for honoring contributions in the governance of American Indian Nations, known as Honoring Nations.

Honoring Nations identifies, celebrates, and shares outstanding examples of governance among American Indian nations. It is in its second year of the tribal governance awards program.

Modeled after similar awards programs supported by the Ford Foundation in Brazil, the U.S., the Philippines and South Africa, Honoring Nations asks tribal governments to submit a short application that describes their outstanding program, practice or initiative.

Completed applications for Honoring Nations 2000 are due by April 21.

To receive an application or to inform the Harvard project about an outstanding tribal government program, contact Andrew Lee at: (617) 496-6632; or by e-mail at Andrew_Lee@ksg.harvard.edu. On-line applications may also be downloaded at www.ksg.harvard.edu/hpaied.

Native wellness conference to be held

PORTLAND, Ore. — Native women from across the United States and Canada will gather at the Ninth Annual Conference on Wellness and Women from May 8 through 11 to discuss approaches for developing a healthy life-style.

Sponsored by the University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education, the conference promotes wellness in the workplace, family, and community.

Early registration is \$200 per person. Group discounts for organizations sending 10 or more participants are available.

For a brochure or more information about the conference, contact OU's Health Promotion Program at: (405) 325-1790; or visit the program's web site at www.hpp.ou.edu.

Museum launches national magazine

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Museum of the American Indian has launched a four-color quarterly publication, "American Indian," as an exclusive benefit to its more than 50,000 members.

Produced entirely by a Native American staff, "American Indian" is intended to provide a direct link with hemispheric Native American communities and the ongoing work and achievements of the NMAI.

The 32-page publication was developed with the help of prominent Native American journalists who gathered in Washington, D.C. in late 1998 to advise the museum on the direction and scope of the publication.

Subscriptions are available only as a benefit of charter membership on the NMAI. Charter membership dues begin at \$20 per year and support the creation of the museum as well as its programs and activities. To join, call 1-800-242-NMAI (6624) or visit NMAI's web site at www.si.edu/nmai.

Education-society

Student receives citation from senator

PAULS VALLEY — Pauls Valley High School Freshman Robbie Crosier received a citation of congratulations from State Senator Enoch Kelly Haney.

Crosier achieved an "excellence" in the math competition during the National Indian Education Association Convention held at the Myriad Convention Center in Oklahoma City in October.

Crosier is the son of Robin and Bob Phillips of Pauls Valley and the late Ronnie Crosier. He is the grandson of Colleen and James Jones of Dustin; Novella and Raymond Crosier of Okmulgee and Bob and Caroline Phillips Jones of Ft. Smith, Ark.

Citizen selected as student of the month

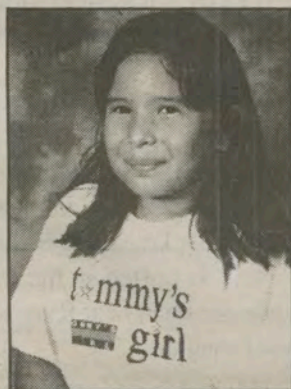
OKMULGEE — Eastside Elementary School second grader Shelby Powell was selected as student of the month for February.

Shelby been named to the honor roll for the first semester.

Powell is the daughter of Richard and Leslie Powell of Okmulgee.

Her grandparents are Lee and Lucille Joshua and Willie and Vena Mae Randall and the late David L. Powell.

She is of Muscogee-Seminole descent and belongs to Nuyaka Tribal Town.



Powell

United Church Press sponsors internship

CLEVELAND — The United Church Press of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ is sponsoring a publishing internship for people of color.

The United Church Press Person of Color Internship Program aims to provide a person of color with hands-on learning experience in a religious publishing house. This intern will work in four departments: acquisitions, editorial, marketing, and production. Candidates may be a recent college graduate or a person currently enrolled in an accredited college pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies. The internship is specifically interested in a person who would like to pursue a future in the publishing industry.

The United Church Press is a nonprofit publishing imprint of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. Its sister press is the Pilgrim Press. The United Church Press publishes 15 to 20 titles per year, specializing in: African American studies; worship resources; pastoral resources; meditation-devotion; United Church of Christ identity and history resources; gay and lesbian issues; women's issues; spirituality; and more.

The eight-week program runs from June 12 to Aug. 4. The program will require a time commitment of a minimum of 20 hours per week; a stipend of \$2,500 will be available. A portion of this stipend will provide transportation for out-of-state residents. Housing will be provided by a United Church of Christ host family.

The selection of one applicant will be made by May 1. Final intern selections are made by the United

Alexander Posey Literary Festival announced

PHOENIX — Atlatl, Inc., National Service Organization for Native American Arts, and Joy Harjo announce "Those Who Speak the World Into Place: The Alexander Posey Literary Festival."

In honor of the celebrated Muscogee poet and journalist Alexander Posey, a creative writing contest designed to encourage the creativity of Muscogee (Creek) Nation's young people is announced for first through twelfth grade students.

Students' writings in poetry, fiction, and non-fiction will be judged for originality, freshness of language and overall excellence. Entries are encouraged to be in the Mvskoke language; awards will be distributed for submissions in both English and

Mvskoke languages. The best work in each genre from elementary, middle and high school will be awarded first, second, and third place. First place entries will be published in the May and-or June issues of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Contest rules:

- any student enrolled in first through twelfth grades who is a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen may enter;
- submissions will be accepted in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction categories. Students may apply in more than one genre, however only one entry in each category will be accepted.
- a maximum of five pages of poetry and twelve

pages of fiction and nonfiction will be accepted from each student;

- double-spaced typed entries are preferable, however handwritten items will be accepted if legible.

Do not send original copies as entries cannot be returned;

- entries must include student's name, address, phone, grade, proof of Muscogee (Creek) tribal citizenship (either photo copy or roll number), school and teacher's name; and

- entries must be postmarked by April 7, 2000. Winners will be notified by May 12, 2000.

Entries must be addressed to: Ahniwake Webb, Atlatl, Inc., P.O. Box 34090, Phoenix, AZ 85067-4090. For

Harjo receives writers' grant; funding makes Alexander Posey Literary Festival possible

In 1998, Joy Harjo was awarded a prestigious three-year writer's grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award.

This endowment bestows monetary awards to selected novelists, playwrights, poets, essayists, and writers of non-fiction. Designed to allow the writer to devote more time to their art, the fund also provides support to a non-profit organization of the writer's choice. "Those Who Speak the World Into Place: An Honoring for Native Writers" is the title for the three-year collaboration. The project recognizes Native writers who have been important in the development of the art and whose writings have expanded the field of American literature.

The Alexander Posey Literary Festival is intended to promote and continue this objective by encouraging and supporting the creativity of our younger generation.

additional information contact Webb at (602) 277-3711

The judges for English submissions will be accomplished Muscogee writers: Annette Arkeketta; Joy Harjo; Vince Mendoza; and Craig Womack. Linda Alexander will judge entries in the Mvskoke language.

Awards will be distributed at a reception in honor of the young awardees and judges at 7 p.m., June 15 at the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. Following the reception will be a reading and presentation of awards. The event will mark the opening of the Creek Nation Festival.

Church Press Intern Committee.

For more information, contact: Kim Martin Sadler, United Church Press, 700 Prospect Ave. E. Cleveland, OH 44115-1100; or call (216) 736-3700.

Jones Academy men holding fall reunion

HARTSHORNE — "The Jones Academy Boys of Yesterday" will hold a reunion on Oct. 21.

For more information, write: Jimmy Bruner, 508 S.E. 2nd, Antlers OK 74523.

Careers

Man honored as employee of the year

HOLDENVILLE — Tribal citizen Robert King Jr. was chosen out of more than 15,000 employees for Correction Corporation of America employee of the year for 1999.

Last year's winner was employed at a Puerto Rico prison — a facility King figured was a pretty "tough place," so he was shocked to be chosen for the distinction.

King had heard positive things about employment

at Davis Correctional Facility through friends, so he pursued a position and began working there in March 1997. King began his career at Davis as a unit officer and is now working at the intake center.

King's employment with the facility wasn't his first experience with the facility. In January 1997 he and fellow members of the Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church began ministering at the facility. The members minister to the inmates once a month through Sunday services.

King graduated from Holdenville High school in 1983. After graduation from high school he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He and his wife, Tammy, have been married for 15 years and have two children, Amber and Aaron.

He is the son of Matilda and the late Robert King.

Arrivals

Anthony Eugene Watashe

OKMULGEE — Anthony Eugene Watashe was born Feb. 4 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Toby Watashe and Crystal Treadway.

please see SOCIETY... page 8

Obituaries-religion

GEORGE CORNELL

TONKAWA — Funeral services for George Harry Cornell were held Feb. 11 at Tonkawa Cultural Center, Fort Oakland, with Rev. Clyde Hendricks officiating.

He died Feb. 8. Cornell was born Oct. 22, 1923 in Holdenville to Moses and Irene Thompson Cornell.

He was raised in the Holdenville area and attended school in Calvin and at Chilocco Indian School. He married Vivian Horsechief Eagle on June 26, 1944 in Holdenville. They settled in Ponca City where he began working for Conoco. Cornell worked for International City [ConAgra] and until his retirement in 1985. He enjoyed athletics, especially football and boxing. Cornell was a member of Faith Baptist Church, Tonkawa, where he served as a deacon.

Cornell was preceded in death by: his parents; a son, Bruce Cornell; a brother, William A. Cornell; a grandson, Allen T. Cornell Jr.; and a great-grandson, Dominique W. Paschal.

He is survived by: his wife; three daughters, Marilyn Cornell of Fort Oakland, Georgiana Cornell of Fort Oakland, and Lee McClain of Ponca City; five sons, Simon Cornell of Ponca City, Allen Cornell, Richard Cornell, Michael Cornell, and George Cornell, all of Fort Oakland; three sisters, Manie Coleman, Doris Thompson, and Margaret White, all of Wichita, Kan.; one brother, Benjamin Cornell of Tahlequah; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Henry Cornell; Chandano Cornell; Jody Cornell; Simon Cornell; G.E. Cornell; Richard Cornell; Michael Cornell; and Allen Cornell.

Interment was at Tonkawa Tribal Cemetery.

CYNTHIA DAY

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Cynthia Jacobs Day were held Dec. 24 at Hickory Ground No. 2 Baptist Church with Rev. Robert Washington officiating.

She died Dec. 21 at Wetumka General Hospital. She was born Nov. 13, 1902 to Joe Jacobs and Gertie Haynes.

Day was the eldest member of Hickory Ground No. 2 Baptist Church. She also served as head women's leader for the last 50 years.

She is survived by: one son, Raymond Chotkey of Oklahoma City; two daughters, Nell Kincade and Mary Hobia, both of Weleetka; two sisters, Betty Baker of Muskogee and Sema Jones of Checotah; one brother, Steven Jacobs of Eufaula; one step-daughter, Pearlina Day of Okmulgee; 34 grandchildren; 52 great-grandchildren; and 29 great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Hickory Ground Cemetery.

JOHN MOORE

MACON, Ga. — Funeral services for John

Randolph Moore were held at Ingleside Memorial Chapel.

Moore died Oct. 1 in Macon, Ga. He was born Aug. 30, 1909 at the Half Moon Ranch, south of Morris, to William and Leona Matlock Moore.

He belonged to Cussetah Tribal Town. He was a 1927 graduate of Chilocco Indian School and attended Bacone College.

Moore was a member of Company C, 180th Infantry Regiment at Chilocco, Company I, 180th Infantry Regiment at Muskogee and Company K, 179th Infantry Regiment in Okmulgee — all in the 45th Thunderbird Division, Oklahoma National Guard. He was a member of Company K when the 45th Division was mobilized for federal service in 1940. He served in combat during World War II with Company K in North Africa, Sicily, and at Anzio in Italy. When WW II hostilities ceased in 1945 he enlisted in the regular Army and served throughout the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and in Europe until his retirement in 1962. His National Guard and regular Army time exceeded 36 years.

Moore was a member of Fort Hawkins Lodge #418 and the Al Sihah Shrine Temple in Macon, Georgia.

He is survived by: two daughters, Sydney Sewell of Macon, Ga. and Angela King of Naples, Fla.; four brothers, Thomas Moore of Okmulgee, Edwin Moore of Muskogee, Bud Moore of Okmulgee, Glenn Moore of Morris; and many other relatives and friends.

Interment was at Macon Memorial Park with full Masonic rites.

AMOS TIGER

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Amos Tiger were held Nov. 15 at Grace Baptist Church with Rev. Wallace Gambler officiating.

He died Dec. 11 in Dumas, Texas. Tiger was born June 24, 1931 near Hanna to Barney Tiger and Cynthia Day.

Tiger was a retired truck driver.

He is survived by: his mother of Wetumka; four sons, Charles, Ronnie, and Kenny Tiger, all of Tulsa, and Keith Tiger of Tahlequah; three daughters, Romana Tiger of Weleetka, Christine Durden of Morris, and Ann Tiger of Okmulgee; one brother, Raymond Chotkey of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Nell Kincade of Wetumka, and Mary Hobia of Weleetka; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Interment was at Wetumka Cemetery.

DAVID WIND JR.

CROMWELL — Funeral services for David Wind Jr. were held Jan. 19 at High Spring Baptist Church.

He died Jan. 16. Wind was born May 26, 1926 to David and Winey Barnett Wind.

Wind married Eliza Bell on March 2, 1951 in Sapulpa. He was employed by the department of transportation until his retirement in 1985.

He grew up around High Spring Baptist Church. He lived in Cromwell for most of his life. Wind rededicated his life to Christ in the summer of 1999. He be-

longed to the Bear Clan and Alabama Tribal Town. He was a supportive participant of many ceremonial grounds such as Fish Pond and Green Leaf. He was assistant chief for Green Leaf Ceremonial Ground from 1994 through 97.

He enjoyed telling stories and jokes, writing poems, singing, and playing the drums.

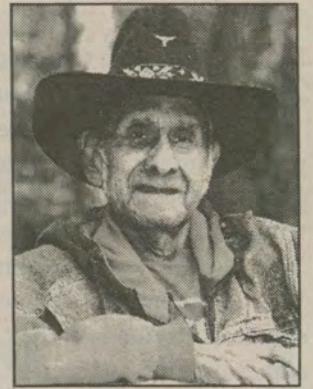
He was preceded in death by: his parents; four children, Lena, Tilda, William, and James Wind.

Wind is survived by: his wife of the home; one son, Nelson "Windy" Wind of Tulsa; one daughter, Laverna Wind of Cromwell; two brothers, Monroe and March Wind, both of Okemah; seven grandchildren, Adam Wind, Ed Deere, Hully Deere and Kelly, Meskee, Gabriel, Nikita, and Elyse Wind; eight great-grandchildren; and many relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Wesley Butler; Vince Butler; Robin Beaver; Simeon "Cufe" Johnson; Dennis Culley; and Donald Hale.

Honorary pallbearers were: Andy Butler; Aaron Culley; Duke Harjo; Jim Harjo; and Frank Harjo.

He was buried in the traditional Maskoke way at his homestead near Rvro Kvlkv (Fish Pond) Ceremonial Ground.



Wind

Gratitude

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who came to the funeral services to express their condolences and to bring comfort to our family.

Also, the family would like to thank Salt Creek United Methodist Church members for their many hours of preparing meals and serving food to large number of people.

We offer special acknowledgment to the Muscogee Nation Lighthouse Administration for their services also.

Rev. Lee Chupco Family

Our family wishes to extend grateful thanks for the prayers and assistance given at the time of the loss of our beloved father and relative. Your prayers, thoughts, and companionship during our time of mourning are greatly appreciated.

Jobie Levi Fields Family

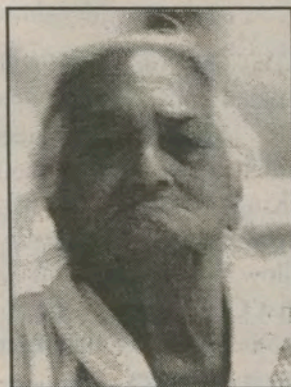
We would like to express our gratitude for the great amount of sympathy and the many acts of kindness shown during the passing of our loved one.

We would like to offer special gratitude to: Muscogee Nation; Okmulgee Indian Community; Belvin Baptist Church; and all the many people who offered food and monetary donations during our time of sorrow.

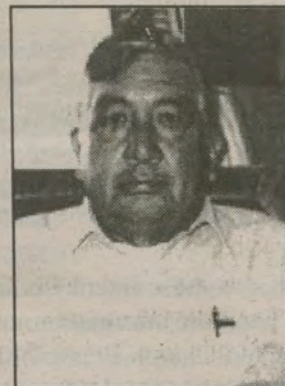
Mary Elizabeth Shirley Family

We would like to express our appreciation to all the

please see **OBITUARIES-RELIGION...**, page 8



Day



Tiger

Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo one of America's top ten bingo halls

TULSA — In December of 1999 Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo, Oklahoma's first Class II Indian high-stakes gaming operation, was named one of America's top 10 bingo halls of 1999 by "Bingo Manager" magazine.

According to the magazine's editor, Jennifer Reed, the bingo halls were chosen for recognition by the national gaming trade magazine's editorial advisory board based on criteria such as customer service, sustained growth, new games offered, aesthetics, air purification and others. The 11-person editorial advisory board consists of top executives from the nation's most prominent gaming products and services companies.

"All of the halls selected were deemed exemplary in their ability to satisfy the needs of their players through innovation and creativity while maintaining profitability," said Reed. "Specifically, Creek Nation was chosen from among thousands of bingo operations nationwide for its entertaining atmosphere, its ongoing commitment to aesthetic improvements and its continued success in a highly-competitive gaming

market."

Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo General Manager Glen Coleman said that much of the hall's success is attributed to the cooperation and support of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and the Gaming Operations Authority Board. "GOAB Chairman Sam Alexander and members Phyllis Warrington, Earl Kelly, ex-officio member Robert Hufft and former member Rocky McIntosh have provided strong, insightful leadership in adopting progressive, innovative strategies for improving the hall's operations and financial performance," said Coleman.

In addition, the Creek National Council has been instrumental in developing and supporting key initiatives designed to keep the bingo hall competitive into the new millennium. One such project approved by the tribe's National Council includes an aggressive refurbishing effort of the 15 year old bingo hall. This includes: new carpeting and seating; the remodeling of the concession area; the addition of a state-of-the-art casino gameroom and nonsmoking area; new Las Vegas-style signs; and other improvements that have

had a significant positive impact on the hall's business.

"Together, the National Council and Gaming Operations Authority Board have given us the tools needed to realize one of the most successful financial years in the history of the bingo operation and to be recognized as one of the 'top ten' bingo halls in the United States," said Coleman.

Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo (founded in 1984) was the first Class II high-stakes Indian bingo operation in the state of Oklahoma and has been recognized as one of the most successful gaming operations in the nation. Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo pays out approximately \$4 million in cash and prizes each month via the hall's various electronic and traditional bingo games, tournament Blackjack games, and other promotional giveaways.

Class II gaming is an economic development operation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Revenues derived from this and other operations are utilized to fund a variety of Muscogee Nation social, health, education, and employment programs and services.

Long

continued from page 1

master of music degree from the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester.

Long has worked as an opera coach with various companies and institutions. He made his conducting debut in Oklahoma in the world premiere of a musical drama, "Mountain Windsong," which was based on a story of the Cherokee Trail of Tears. He also conducted "The Binding of Isaac" at the Crystal Opera Consortium in Norwalk, Conn.

He is currently on the faculty of the State University of New York at Stony Brook and the Apen Music Festival and School.

Long resides in New York City. He is the son of the Racoon Clan and Thlophlocco Tribal Town and of Maskoke-Choctaw descent. He is the son of Stella and Fred Long of Oklahoma City.

Harjo

continued from page 2

territories of sexual abuse and lost history. Her tale is an unsentimental one of survival. From the terrifying depths of the darkness, Joy Harjo pulls strength and, with it, lights her way to finish the map to the next world.

Joy Harjo is an enrolled member of the Muscogee Tribe. She has published several award-winning books, including "She Had Some Horses," "In Mad Love and War," and "The Woman Who Fell From the Sky." She coedited "Reinventing the Enemy's Language: Contemporary Native Women's Writers of North America." She is the saxophone player for her band "Poetic Justice," whose last compact disc was "Letter from the End of the Twentieth Century." She received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writer's Circle of the Americas and lives in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Invasion

continued from page 2

culture that carried it into the world of the Native American.

Fixico holds our attention by his well researched descriptions of such events as the heroic fight by much of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation against the division of their tribal lands in the early 1900s and the devastating impact of the discovery of oil upon the Osage Indians in the 1920s. He takes us into recent years and current issues in his examination of environmental issues and tribal leadership.

Fixico seldom minces words in this book. For example, in a discussion on the pressures placed upon past and present tribal communities Fixico says:

"Unfortunately, the cultural meaning of Mother Earth to many tribes becomes less important as their people seek sufficient education, well-paying jobs, modern health services, updated housing, and adequate food supplies. To be sure, cultures change with time, but the observation here is that the increasing demand for natural resources is accelerating the cultural changes for tribes who happen to possess coal, oil, timber, water, uranium, and other natural resources necessary for sustaining human life."

Perhaps this view of history and current Native American issues could only have been written by Fixico, or someone with just his background and training. His own Native American heritage and upbringing gives credibility to his portrayal of the impact of the European-American systems on the traditional family values of the Native peoples.

The entire treatise is also a display of the knowledge and experience acquired through his education and research.

This book definitely enriches both the written and unwritten library of the Native American.

Letters

continued from page 2

Editor's note: Johnnie DePriest's letter ran in the *The Muscogee Nation News*, Vol. 29, Issue 1. DePriest, a destitute, single mother, complained about not receiving assistance from Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, although she did receive assistance from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services.

In order to receive Muscogee Nation Contract Health Services, an individual must, among other eligibility requirements, reside within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Contract Health Service Delivery Area which consists of: Creek, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, and McIntosh counties for both inpatient and outpatient services and Muskogee, Wagoner, and Tulsa (south of Admiral Street) for inpatient services.

Citizen wants Council bills printed verbatim
Editor:

There was a time, in the past, when all legislation which was being considered by the National Council was printed verbatim in *The Muscogee Nation News*.

This gave the citizens of the Nation an opportunity to know what was being considered by the Council and how it may affect them as individuals.

For some time the National Council has not read the bills during their meetings, so at present there is no way for an individual citizen of the Nation to be aware of changes made that may affect them.

I think you would be doing a great service to the citizens of the Nation if you would commence printing all bills verbatim, that the Council has taken action on.

Frank Kamp, Eufaula

Editor's note: *The Muscogee Nation News* has printed some National Council legislation verbatim, but never consistently. Because of space constraints, it would not be feasible to print the entirety of each National Council act or resolution decided upon during its sessions.

Big Cussetah dedicates flag pole in honor of veterans buried at church

MORRIS — On Jan. 2 Big Cussetah Methodist Church members held a dedication of a flag pole in honor of veterans buried in the church cemetery.

The mistress of ceremonies was Dorothy Pinezaddleby. Sonny Rutherford and Ernest Daniels made the presentation of colors. Col. Edwin S. Moore officiated the dedication ceremony. Moore, a Cussetah Tribal Town member, offered a history of the confederated Maskokulke from creation to their forced removal to Indian Territory. He also briefed the audience on the history of Cussetah Tribal Town, from which the church originated.

"Cussetah had been one of the largest of the tribal towns in the southeast and they decided to establish themselves in this area near the Deep Fork River to be near the Council House around which the city of

Okmulgee eventually grew. Records show that a church was established on this spot in about 1860 and has operated here since then. The name Big

Cussetah came into use probably because most of the Cussetah Town citizens lived on the east side of the Deep Fork River along Cussetah Creek. Another church now exists on the west side of the Deep Fork, but it is called Little Cussetah."

He followed the history with a reading of the names of veterans buried in the church cemetery.

The flag and pole were donated to the church by Cecil Turner, the father of Brad

Turner — a Desert Storm veteran buried at the church cemetery. Turner is the son-in-law of church members, David and Maxine Willie Layton.

Cussetah veterans

Dora Yardy Arno, Army, WW II
Wesley Bear, Army, WW II
John Beaver Jr., Navy, Korean War
William Beaver, Marines, Korean War
Mose Daniels, Army, WW II
Joe Factor, Army, WW II
Louie Harjo, Army, WW II
Norman Harjo, Army, WW II
Sam Marcy, Army, WW I
Henry Tarpelechee, Army, WW II
Johnson Tarpelechee, Army, WW II
*Yarne Tarpelechee, Army, WW II
Brad Turner, Navy, Desert Storm
Sam Willie, Marines, Korean War

*Tarpelechee was killed in action at New Guinea.

Obituaries-religion

continued from page six

ceremonial ground speakers, churches, family and friends during the loss of Tema and Hazel Tiger.

We would like to express special appreciation to: Rev. Jerry Baker; Dave Bowlegs; Mose Cahwee; Newman Littlebear; Bessie Talamassy; Central Florida Mvskoke Creeks; Pine Arbor Mvskoke Creeks, and Alabama Quassarte Ceremonial Ground members for cooking and their dedication to our loved ones.

They were loved by so many throughout the southeastern United States and Oklahoma and will be remembered as leaders among the Yuchi and Mvskoke people.

Tema and Hazel Tiger Family

Religion

Wild onion dinner scheduled at Davis Chapel
COWETA — Davis Chapel United Methodist Church is holding a wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 25.

The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 10 and under.

The church is located two miles south of Coweta on highway 72.

Tookparfka Baptist holding March revival

CALVIN — Tookparfka Baptist Church is holding a revival March 27 through 31 beginning at seven nightly.

The evangelist is Don Tiger.

The church is located five miles south of Horntown on highway 75 and three miles east.

Springfield church holding onion dinner

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church is holding an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 8 at Okemah Indian Community Center.

The cost is \$5 adults and \$2.50 for children ages 12 and under.

The community center is located two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27.

Wewoka Methodist church to hold Revival

WEWOKA — Wewoka United Methodist Church has is holding its spring revival April 19 through 22 beginning at seven nightly.

The guest speakers will be: Anita Phillips; Pablo Alavarado; Tim Byington; and Steve Floch.

Refreshments will be served.

From state highway 48 and 270, drive three miles east and seven miles north on Yeager road.

Concharty to hold volleyball tournament

BIXBY — Concharty United Methodist Church is holding its annual all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., March 25.

The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 10 and under.

The church is also holding an adults double elimination coed volleyball tournament beginning at 9 a.m., April 29.

The eight-person roster will have a 12 team limit. The \$40 entry fee is must be received by April 18.

For more information, contact church members at: (918) 366-8450; or Marcus Brown at (918) 482-5367.

Society

continued from page 5

He weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces.

His paternal grandparents are Russell and Vicky Watashe of Okmulgee.

His maternal grandparents are James Treadway of Bloomington, Ind. and Rhonda Treadway of Tulsa.

His paternal great-grandparents are Lawrence C. Watashe of Sapulpa and the late Thomas and Mattie Long. His maternal great-grandparents are Dale Robison and Mary Robison, both of Tulsa. He is the great-great-grandson of Letha Robison of Ponca City.



Watashe

Birthdays

BRISTOW — Echaswa Horse celebrated his third birthday on Feb. 20 at the home of his grandparents.

He is the son of Georgia Jo Horse.

His maternal grandparents are Jeanette and Dewey Horse of Bristow.

His great-grandparents are Joann and Arthur Powell of Bristow.

Horse belongs to the Beaver Clan and Cedar River New Tulsa Tribal Town.



Horse

Nuptials

Schultz and Sexson united in marriage

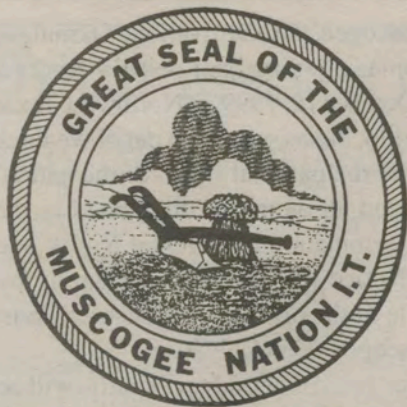
PORTLAND, Ore. — Tribal citizen Kerry Schultz was married to Richie Sexson on Nov. 20 at the Old Church.

The bride was given away by her father, Ross Schultz. The ushers included her brothers, Eron, Luke, and Jayme Schultz. Her grandmother, Willa Bel Schultz, played and sang "My Wonderful One."

A reception followed at the Benson Hotel in Portland.



Mr. and Mrs. Sexson



The Muscogee Nation News

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Volume 29, Issue 4

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April 2000, 12 pages

Individual Indian Monies accounts converted to new system

WASHINGTON — Effective April 2000, all remaining Individual Indian Monies (IIM) trust fund accounts have been converted to a new, automated Trust Fund Accounting System (TFAS). The implementation of this new accounting system at all Bureau of Indian Affairs Regional Offices marks the completion of a significant component of the Secretary of the Interior's Trust Management Improvement Project. The Trust Fund Accounting System is the responsibility of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST).

"Every tribal and IIM account and all investments have now been converted to the same commercial trust fund accounting system that is used in many major banks nationwide," Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt said. "The completion of this effort is a credit to the efforts of OST and this milestone marks the Department's commitment to the implementation

please see **TRUST REFORM**..., page 12

Memorial observance being held

OKMULGEE — The Committee of Osten is holding a Memorial Day observance at the Muscogee Veterans Memorial Monument beginning at 11 a.m., May 29.

George and Shirley Almerigi, Navy and Air Force veterans, respectively will serve as the masters of ceremonies. The following includes the agenda:

- delivery of the keynote address by Rev Harry Long, Marine Corp. veteran;
- presentation of the colors by the Muscogee Nation Honor Guard will present the colors;
- Muscogee singing lead by Stanley Roberts, Marine Corp. veteran;
- English singing lead by Charlie Coker, Army Air Force veteran;
- solo by Muscogee Citizen Pearl Thomas;
- the laying of the men's wreath by Phillip Coon, Army veteran;
- the laying of the women's wreath by June Mustari, Air Force veteran; and
- Peggy Chalakee, Gold Star Mothers, will lay the wreath for veterans that were killed in action.

Light Refreshments will be served following

The monument is on the tribal capitol complex located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Chief inducted into Indian athletic hall of fame

TULSA — The American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame added four gifted athletes to its honor roll.

R. Perry Beaver, Robert Cannon, Andrew Sockalexis, and Louis Sockalexis were formally inducted at a ceremony held in April. Andrew and Louis Sockalexis were inducted posthumously.

Beaver, who established his athletic abilities through the game of football, commented, "if you work hard, and do what is right, good things will happen to you, and this is certainly a good thing."

Beaver played high school football at Morris High School. He then attended Northeast Louisiana University on a football scholarship where he excelled. Gaining popularity there, he was then drafted by the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League.

Forced to retire because of an injury, Beaver returned to college and received a teaching degree from



photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Citizen and Hall of Fame Alumnus Ed Moore presents R. Perry Beaver with a plaque proclaiming him an official inductee into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. His career led him to Jenks where he became the head football coach. Beaver led the Trojans to two state high school football championships.

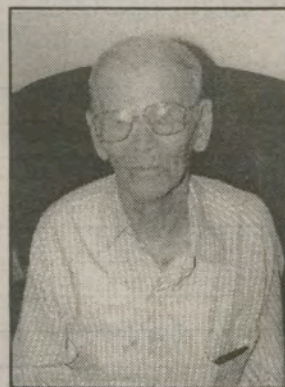
Lifelong Stidham elder reaches centenarian mark

EUFULA — Lifelong Stidham native Pink Rumsey celebrated his 100th birthday on May 12.

Born during the same year that a tribal delegation went to Washington D.C. to make a new agreement with the Dawes Commission, Rumsey is aware of the implications of his allottee status.

He recalled oil-rich allottees such as Eastman Richard and Aggie Fox having made their fortunes through their land, yet he boasted the best allotment in the state in a July 1996 story published in *The Muscogee Nation News*.

"My mother was kind of sick, and I was kind of aggravating to her, so she filed her land in a hurry and it fell on the mountain up there, on Limbo [Creek].



Rumsey

She filed on the river up north and west of Lenna — the best 160 in Oklahoma."

He is not alone in this opinion as Muscogee Poet Alexander Posey, who was born near Limbo Creek, gave the area much acclaim in his poetry.

Although Rumsey's grandfather, Sam Hawkins, died before his birth, he can recount pre-removal oral history as told to his grandmother [Cinda Hawkins] by Hawkins.

Rumsey married childhood friend Lillie Morrison on Aug. 4, 1919. She passed away in 1997 at the age of 95. Together, they had five children: Louise McIntosh of Stidham; Jon Rumsey of Newcastle; and the late Jack, Ruth, and Raymond Rumsey. He has eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

He was a farmer and rancher and maintained two gardens up until the age of 97. Rumsey belongs to Koweta Tribal Town. He is the son of Pink and Louiza Hawkins Rumsey. He has resided at Wellington Hills Nursing Home in Eufaula since 1998.

Letters to the editor

Incarcerated citizen seeks Muscogee ways

Editor:

I ask the elders, faith keepers, and grandmothers for spiritual guidance.

I would like spiritual counseling on Muscogee tribal ways from anyone that attends our traditional ceremonies. I attend the Inip sweat lodges every weekend. My present knowledge of the people is limited because I am the only Muscogee here on these ceremonial grounds.

I need to know my ways before I learn others. All ways are good, but my voice and heart reaches out to those who can give me more insight on the traditional teachings of the Muscogee. I ask with an open heart; please contact me at: Ray Buck #J87729, P.O. Box 409000, Ione, CA 95640-09000. *Mvto*,

Ray Buck, Ione, Calif.

Former candidate for chief thanks citizens

Editor:

I wish to thank the Muscogee (Creek) citizens for their prayers and support in the recent tribal elections.

It is most pleasing that numerous Muscogee citizens contacted me to state — "Ken you ran a clean, Christian campaign."

I wish Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver well. We'll see what the future holds. *Mvto*,

Kenneth Childers, Glenpool

Legal Notice

**Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 29, Issue 4, April 2000**

In the matter of : G.M. and C.M.

Minor Creek Children
Case No. JV-2000-03

Notice of Hearing

To: Leatrice Marshall, mother of G.M. and C.M., and Eugene (Steve) Marshall, father of G.M. and C.M.

You are hereby given notice of an adjudication/dispositional hearing on the above-styled and numbered case in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, tribal complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 31st day on May, 2000 at 9 a.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed the you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of April, 2000.

/s/ Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge

**Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 29, Issue 4, April 2000**

In the matter of: Baby Boy Harper now Joshua Andrew Harper AKA Joshua Matthew Harper
DOB: 10/19/99

Case No. JV-99-10

Notice of Proceedings

for Termination of Parental Rights

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: the unidentified natural father of Joshua Andrew Harper; DOB 10/19/99; born at Northwest Texas Hospital, Amarillo, Texas, to Stephanie Jo Harper

Notice is hereby given that proceedings for termination of the parental rights of the natural father of Joshua Andrew Harper has been filed in the District

Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, alleging that Joshua Andrew Harper, born on October 19, 1999, at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, Texas, was born out of wedlock and requesting that the parental rights of the natural father be terminated all as more fully stated in the Application for Termination of Parental Rights and Application for Notice of Termination Hearing by Publication on file in the office of the District Court Clerk of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Notice is further given that said application will be heard before Judge Patrick E. Moore at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Courthouse, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 2nd day of June, 2000, at the hour of 9 a.m.

Notice is further given that at such hearing you are entitled to the opportunity to be heard, including the right to object to said proposed termination and to offer evidence in support of your objection all as provided by law.

Notice is further given that failure by you to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of interest in the child which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in the termination of your parental rights and in the transfer of said child's care, custody or guardianship, or in said child's adoption.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2000

/s/ Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, circulation

Newspaper seeks submissions for Muscogee senior high and college graduates

OKMULGEE — The staff of *The Muscogee Nation News* is seeking submissions from Muscogee senior high and college graduates for its annual graduates' section.

The section will run in the June issue of *The MNN*. To have a graduation announcement published in this annual section include:

- the roll number of the graduate (if the roll number is not known, include the Social Security number

or date of birth and the graduate's full name;

- a focused, color or black and white photograph with good contrast (photos are optional); and
- graduate's information printed on *The MNN* form or on other paper with adherence to the form and a word limit around 115.

The deadline for submissions is May 29. Mail submissions to: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. For more information, call: (918) 756-8700, ext. 312.

Muscogee Graduates Class of 2000

Name: _____

High school, college, or university: _____

Parents: _____

Grandparents: _____

Awards: _____

Activities: _____

Plans: _____

Events scheduled for 26th annual Festival

OKMULGEE — The 26th Annual Creek Nation Festival will be held June 16, 17, and 18. with the opening by "Way Out West;" Other events include: basketball (3-on-3); 5k run; golf tournament; horse shoes; olympics; rodeo; senior citizens activities; a quilt show; softball; tennis; and volleyball.

Highlights for the schedule of events include:

Thur., June 15

- pre-event — 7 p.m., Miss Mvskokey Nation and Little Miss Mvskokey Nation pageants;

- pre-event — 7 p.m., Alexander Posey Literary Festival, Creek Nation Council House Museum;

Fri., June 16

- 7 p.m. — gospel singing;

- 7 p.m. — Blues Festival featuring: "Blues Nation;" "Black Hawk;" "Color Blind;" "Mikko & The Shawks;"

- 8 p.m. — wrestling, Oklahoma Professional Wrestlers Association;

- midnight — stompdance

Sat., June 17

- 7 p.m. — country and western concert featuring Doug Stone

www.ocevn.net.org/creek/festival.html

Miss Mvskokey candidates sought

OKMULGEE — Candidates for Miss Mvskokey Nation are being sought.

To be eligible applicants must:

- be one-fourth blood enrolled Muscogee;
- be between the ages of 16 to 21 on the date of the pageant;
- never have been married or borne a child;
- live within the state of Oklahoma; and
- not have cohabited before or during reign.

Applications must be received by May 31.

For more information, call Lena Marshall at 1 (800) 521-5432 or (918) 756-2112.

Arts and crafts booths as well as concessions will be available also.

Daily gate fees are: free admission for youth ages 14 and under; \$4 for individuals ages 15 through 54; and \$3 for individuals ages 56 and over.

The theme for this year's Festival is "Reflections of the Past—Establishing the Future." Most events will be held at the Claude Cox Omniplex located just west of U.S. Highway 75 and Fairgrounds Road.

For more information, contact: (918) 756-8700; 1 (800) 482-1979 (in Oklahoma); or

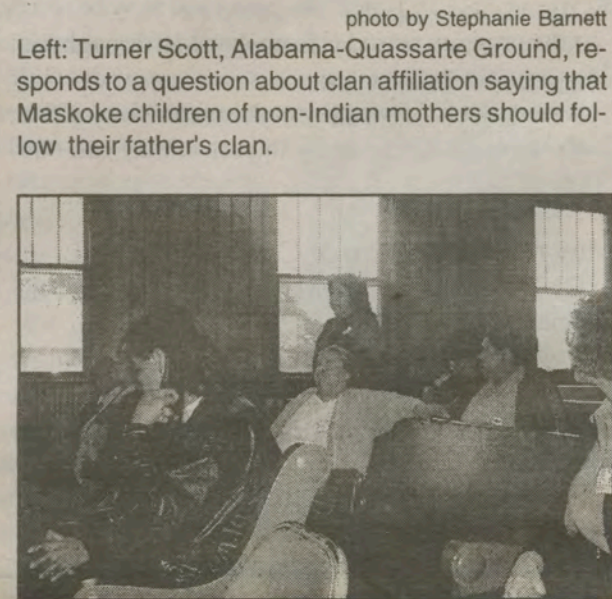
The Gathering of Clans



photo by Fred Long
John Proctor of Wetumka, Rev. Harry Long of Muskogee, and Wilbur Gouge of Eufaula, talk about the origination of Maskokulke clans during the opening night of "The Gathering of Clans" held at Salt Creek United Methodist Church in March.



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Left: Turner Scott, Alabama-Quassarte Ground, responds to a question about clan affiliation saying that Maskoke children of non-Indian mothers should follow their father's clan.



Tribal Head Start centers break ground, promote awareness of cultures



Breaking ground for Eufaula Head Start are: McIntosh District National Council Representative Tommy Pickering; Eufaula Head Start Supervisor Byar Beaver; Muscogee Nation Head Start Administration Manager Pat Wind; and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver.



Posing with Chief Beaver at the groundbreaking are youth: Phillip Francis; Tusa Beaver; Kellie Beaver; Dana Beaver; James Beaver Jr.; and John Beaver.



Debra Cloud, age three, and her sister, Destiny — a five year old Muscogee Nation Sapulpa-Jenks Head Start student — were among those making presentations during the Head Start's multicultural day. The Sapulpa-Jenks Head Start staff invited other area programs to the event in order to promote awareness and understanding of various cultures.



Sapulpa-Jenks Head Start Teacher Anthony Frazier instructs students on how to make a drum as part of its multicultural day activities.



Shell shaker Destiny Cloud, and sister Debra, prepares to perform an exhibition of shellshaking as her mother, LaCressia, ties on her turtle shells.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Programs-notices

Lawn program guidelines changed

EUFULA — Eufaula Indian Community Lawn Mowing program guidelines have changed to include the following:

- participants must access their own vendor. Participants unable to find a vendor may call the community office for assistance;
- the community will pay the cost of lawn mowing at \$25, every two weeks (twice a month), for elders ages 62 and older that reside within Eufaula Indian Community boundaries;
- the participant is responsible for any cost over \$25;
- the program period is from April 10 through July 24;
- individuals must apply at the community office. Individuals unable to apply in person may call 689-5066.

May regular session of Council changed

OKMULGEE — The May regular session of the National Council has been changed to May 20.

It will begin at 10 a.m. in the National Council chambers — the modular building located east of the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building (main complex).

For more information, call (918) 758-1410.

Tribe honors top three Johnson O'Malley programs

OKLAHOMA CITY — Muscogee Nation recognized the top three Johnson O'Malley programs of the fiscal year 1999 program year during the state conference held Feb. 28 through March 2.

Those recognized were: Haskell Public Schools; Sand Springs Public Schools; and Union Public Schools. Each program received a plaque presented by Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver and each Indian Education Committee member received a gold key chain presented by Second Chief A.D. Ellis.

Also attending the awards ceremony were: Muscogee District Representative Harley Little; Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Kandice Buck; and Muscogee Nation Human Development Director Will Freeman.

Sand Springs



Pictured, left to right, are Sand Springs Indian education committee staff: Kristi Bland; Dolly Johnson; Alice Kemp; April Brown; Roberta Clardy; Susanne Sanders; George Paden; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Second Chief A.D. Ellis.

Haskell



Pictured, left to right, are Haskell Indian education committee staff: Dr. Berry; Tracey Campbell; Debra Kerr; Mindy Stark; Barbara Smith; Foye Cash; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Second Chief A.D. Ellis.

Union



Pictured, left to right, are Union Indian education committee staff: Zach Lightning; Lu Shana Bialock; Samantha Partain; Alice Chapman; Pam Lee; Sue Ashby; Jackie White; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Second Chief A.D. Ellis.

Tribe executes workshops for algebra project

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation is executing the Providing Opportunities With Algebra project for which it was named the lead grant recipient.

The two-year project is aimed at improving the quality of teaching and learning of algebra. The project will focus on Native American students enrolled in algebra classes in 18 counties — Muscogee and Cherokee nations' jurisdictions — located in northeastern Oklahoma. Strong emphasis is being given to the learning styles of Native American students. According to the grant application, Native Americans who enroll in college or universities require mathematics remedial instruction at a rate 39 percent higher than their anglo peers. During the course of the two year program 80 algebra teachers will be recruited from the 18 county schools serving the highest percentage of native children.



photo by Gerald Wofford

Oklahoma Institute on Learning Styles Director Sue Ellen Read, a consultant to the Providing Opportunities With Algebra project, offers a presentation on Native American learning styles during the second project workshop held at the tribal capitol in April.

Honor dance to be held for couple

TULSA — An honor dance will be held for Mose and Thelma Cahwee from 2 to 7 p.m., May 21 at the University of Tulsa Allen Chapman Activity Center.

The gourd dance is sponsored by the couple's children and the American Indian Cultural Society of the University of Tulsa.

Supper will be served at 4 p.m.

The head staff includes: head singer, Larry Cozad; head gourd dancer, Charles Chibitty; and master of ceremonies, Perry Aunko.

Higher education accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is accepting applications requests for the 2000-01 academic year.

Applicants must: possess a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood and tribal membership cards; be planning to attend an accredited two-year junior college or four-year university; and apply for federal financial aid at their college or university and complete the FAFSA form to be eligible for the higher education grant.

Applications will be mailed through May 31. Written requests for applications must be submitted. The deadline to apply for the self governance higher education grant is June 1. The tribal grant application closing date is June 15.

Continuing students on the program must submit current grade reports or transcripts and meet requirements to receive a renewal form. The renewal forms will be mailed March 1 and should be returned by June 1.

For more information, contact the higher education office at: (918) 756-8700; or 1 (800) 482-1979, exts. 614, 615, or 616.

Mvskoke Senior Citizens elect officers

EUFULA — The Mvskoke Senior Citizens Advisory Committee elected officers at their April monthly meeting held at Eufaula Indian Community Center.

Those elected were: Esther Grona, chair; Shirley Almerigi, secretary-treasurer; and Dianna Weisz, second secretary.

Among items for discussion on the agenda were: health care; vision care; diabetes foot care; Muscogee senior citizens employment protection; and the National Council on Aging Conference to be held Aug. 19 through 22 in Duluth, Minn.

Among those in attendance were: National Council Representatives Keeper Johnson, David Lewis, and Jim McGirt.

The May meeting was held in Holdenville. Community Development Manager Ken Tiger and Community Development Specialist Tom Stewart made a presentation on their program and how chartered Muscogee communities may apply for grants.

Community health representatives hold fourth annual health fair at Eufaula Indian Community Center

EUFULA — Around 200 people received health screenings at the Muscogee Nation Community Health Representatives and Eufaula Indian Health Center Public Health Department's fourth annual health fair held in March.

Blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and respiratory health screenings were given by Public Health Nurses Lynda McIntosh and Barbara Tiger.

The health fair, hosted by Eufaula Indian Community, also featured television personality and Clearstone spokesperson Bob Howard.



James Beaver of Eufaula examines a model of a human muscle at the tribal community health representatives table. Tribal CHR Martha Givens assisted Beaver and others attending the fair by distributing information on improving physical health.

photos by Gerald Wofford

Maxine Osten of Eufaula receives health advice from Lynda McIntosh, Eufaula Indian Health Center public health nurse.

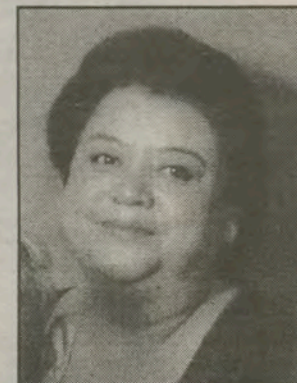
allows individuals to obtain an associate's of science degree in child development or general studies. Classes are held two evenings a week. The summer session will start June 12.

For more information, call (918) 758-1463.

Manager elected to third term as president

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley Program Manager Virginia Thomas was re-elected as the National JOM Board President at its 2000 conference.

Thomas was re-elected to the national board as a member-at-large and was elected by the board to her third term as the national board president.



Thomas

Tribe presented plaque for contributions

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Muscogee Nation was presented a plaque for "artistic contribution" to the 15th Annual Minority Aging Conference held in March.

Lou Fixico, Muscogee Nation Elderly Nutrition Program coordinator, accepted the plaque on behalf of the tribe. Her program contributed shawls for presenters and pottery center pieces.



Fixico

please see **PROGRAMS-NOTICES...**, page 12

Programs-notices

continued from page 4

Among those in attendance were: National Council Representatives Keeper Johnson, Harley Little, and Jim McGirt.

The next meeting of the Mvskoke Senior Citizens will be held at 10 a.m., June 7 at Dewar Indian Community Center.

The Mvskoke Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Grona requests that each Muscogee community send her a list of its artist so that she may compile a list of Muscogee Indian artists for distribution. Lists may be sent to: Esther Grona, 600 N. Oklahoma, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Head Start to giveaway surplus items

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start has surplus items to be given away to communities, churches, ceremonial grounds, and interested citizens.

The items may be picked up between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the following locations:

- Yeager Head Start Center; from Interstate 40 exit at the Weleetka exit and drive south on U.S. Highway 75 — through Weleetka and Wetumka — for 22 miles to the Yeager sign and drive five miles west on the blacktop road. The center is located on the south side of the road;
- Sapulpa Head Start Center; 520 S. Adams;
- Eufaula Head Start Center, 800 4th Ave.; and
- Okmulgee Head Start Center, 1808 N. Miami, located on the tribal capitol complex grounds.

Chief signs agreement with Bacone president

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver recently signed an agreement with Bacone College President Norman P. Madsen, finalizing the two entities cooperative effort to offer an associate's degree program to tribal employees.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care and Bacone College began offering associate's degree program courses at the office of child care training center in February.

The program



photo by Stephanie Barnett

Chief R. Perry Beaver and Bacone College President Norman P. Madsen sign the agreement.

Certified Lighthouse officers educate youth on dangers of firearms

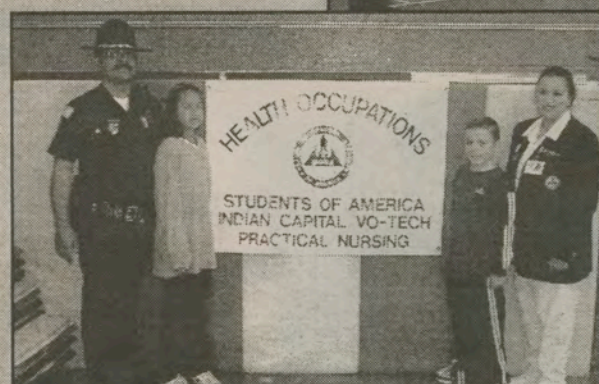
HILLDALE — Muscogee Nation Lighthouse Officers Washington Cummings and Jerry Wittman are using their Gun Resistance And Violence Education certification to educate youth about the potential dangers of handling firearms.

Cummings made a presentation to Hilldale Elementary School students recently.

Cummings, and Wittman received G.R.A.V.E. certification from the Oklahoma City Police Department in 1998.

The program entails a two-hour presentation that is directed toward middle school aged students in the public school system.

For more information, contact the Muscogee Nation Lighthouse Administration at (918) 756-8700, ext. 382.



Officer Cummings is pictured with Hilldale Elementary School Students Keah Ellison and Colton Craig and Stephanie Harjo, a practical nursing student at Indian Capitol Vo-Tech, Muskogee. Harjo, along with classmates, produced a short play on the consequences of careless firearms handling as well as distributed educational literature on the subject.

Muscogee Nation Lighthouse Officer Washington Cummings educates Hilldale Elementary School students on the potential dangers of handling firearms.

photos by Gerald Wofford



photo by Gerald Wofford
Kylee VanStraten, age five, of Okmulgee participates in Okmulgee Head Start's Week of the Young Child Trike-a-thon. Proceeds from the event benefitted St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. VanStraten was the Muscogee Nation Head Start Program's top fundraiser.

Muscogee youth c Week of the April 9th th



Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Head Start's
Samantha Underwood, Justina B, all age five and of Okmulgee, participate in the Young Child Trike-a-thon.



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center opened its kitchen to parents during the Week of the Young Child. Tracie Brown and son, Salvador, age four, of Glenpool eat breakfast in the cafeteria.



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Dylan Hicks, 18 months, of Hanna participates in an egg hunt held as part of Okmulgee Child Development Center's Week of the Young Child activities.

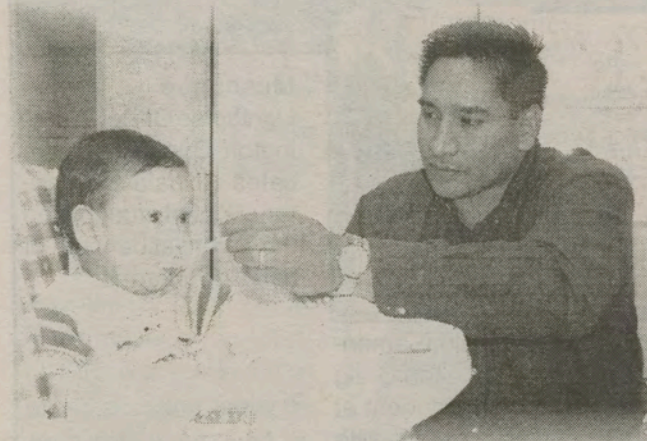


photo by Stephanie Barnett
Eco Barnett, 13 months, enjoys biscuits and gravy fed by his father, Roger, of Bristow.



Shannon Brown, child development center employee, feeds
Glen, of Glenpool and Kylie Morgan, age three, breakfast.

The Nation Celebrate Young Child through 15th



photo by Gerald Wofford
Start students, left to right,
er, and Kylee VanStratton,
ate in the center's Week of



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Meske Wind, 20 months, of Okmulgee doesn't
have to hunt too far for eggs.



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Jordan Ceasar, 17 months, of Glenpool
takes a break from egg hunting for an
obligatory pose for the camera.



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Kristi Yahola and daughter, Adrianna Canard, age 5, of
Jenks

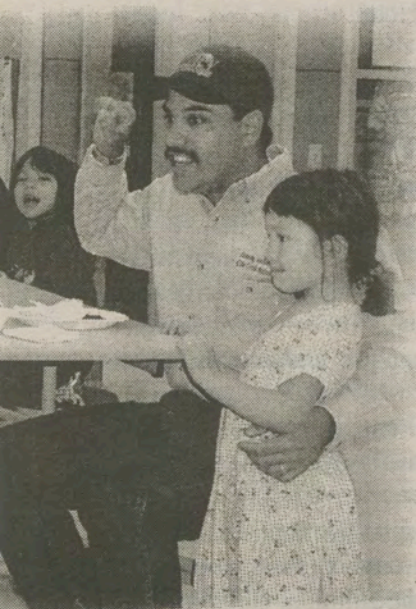


photo by Stephanie Barnett
ee, Courtney Brown, age four, her father,
of Okmulgee share a few laughs after



photo by Stephanie Barnett
Skye Lindsey, 15 months, and mother, LaResa of Bixby

Education

Student attends fire academy in Tulsa

TULSA — Bristow eighth grader Ashley Deerinwater was one 30 cadets to graduate from Tulsa Fire Academy in March.

The eight-week training required Deerinwater to complete the same physical agility test that applicants to the Tulsa Fire Department must complete.

During the first week the cadets used a used a pike pole and sledge hammer, navigated a hose through a maze, and dragged a "body" through a maze. Deerinwater learned cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how to put on bunker gear. She also learned how to detect hot spots, connect hoses, carry ladders, fight live fire with extinguishers.

Deerinwater was one of two girls in her class; she also had the distinction of being one of the two youngest cadets at 14 years of age. Deerinwater plans to be a firefighter and will be participating in a Tulsa Fire Department community service program for youth that are pursuing careers in firefighting.

She is the daughter of Aaron and Nancy Deerinwater of Bristow. Her grandparents are Alex and Pat Deerinwater of Bristow and Alva Wilton of Tulsa. Her great-grandmother is Lucille Wilton of Broken Arrow.



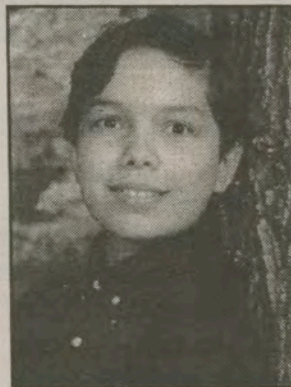
Deerinwater

Students artwork chosen for exhibit at museum

OKEMAH — William Doty's entry to the Global Millennium Dinosaur Art Contest has been chosen for exhibition at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History.

He and other artists will be honored at a reception to be held at the museum. Doty is a fifth grade student at Oakes Elementary in Okemah.

He is the son of Susan and Dave Doty. His grandparents are Percy and LaDonna Sharp. He is the great-grandson of the late Edna Yahola.



Doty

Haskell student places third in JOM contest

OKLAHOMA CITY — Haskell High School student Aaron Eller placed third in the statewide Johnson O'Malley art contest.

His drawing was based on the state JOM conference theme. "Our Vision, Their Future"

Eller was honored at an artists' reception during the state conference and received a \$50 award.



Eller

Girl wins first place in ornament contest

TULSA — Third grader Joy Harjo won first place in Victory Christian School's annual Christmas ornament contest in December.

Harjo's yarn angel ornament was judged first place in the category of "In-the-round" for first through fifth grade students.

She is the daughter of Jim and Beverly Harjo, of Glenpool. She is the granddaughter of Duke and Ellen Harjo of Sapulpa and Roy and Laura Taylor of Stroud.



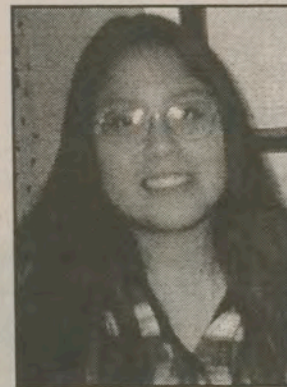
Harjo

Girl receives grand prize in multicultural fair

TULSA — Lizzie Maha received grand prize in the Disney Elementary School Multicultural Fair for a project she completed on Muscogee Indians.

Her project included: a history of removal from Alabama and Georgia to Indian Territory; a report and pictures of the game of stickball including the display of ballsticks; as well as art, music, and a family tree.

Her project was judged among submissions from students in the third through fifth grades. The fair awards first, second, and third place in each grade. Maha has the distinction of winning the grand prize for her second consecutive year. Maha is full-blood Muscogee-Sioux-Omaha-Hopi.



Maha

Girl's helps Sequoyah make state tournament

TAHLEQUAH — Just seven months after ending her high school fast pitch career and the chance to be seen by college scouts, Jamie Teehee helped lead the Sequoyah Lady Indians to their first state basketball tournament.

A knee injury ended Teehee's Tahlequah High School fast pitch career. Teehee was a starting shooting guard for the Tahlequah Lady Tigers during her sophomore year, although injuries hampered her playing ability and she sat out during the following season. Wanting to play basketball, she transferred to Sequoyah for her senior year, assisting the Lady Tigers in achieving their best regular season record at 21-1 and a number 10 ranking in a *Daily Oklahoman* poll.

She averaged eight points per game. During the regional finals Teehee scored eight of the nine final points that defeated the number two ranked Warner team.

Sequoyah was paired with the number one ranked Cascia Hall in the first round of the state championships, but were defeated.

She is the daughter of Jim and Brenda Teehee of Tahlequah and the granddaughter of the late Joe and Helen Cook, Holdenville.

Metal sculptor receives goldsmiths' grant

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Timothy Tiger was awarded a Society of North American Goldsmiths Minority Student Grant for the year 2000.

The award was based on his artwork dealing with

Native American issues. His work is small metal sculpture.

Tiger was also named to the "Incomplete List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" for the fall semester at the University of Illinois Champaign/Urbana. He is a teaching assistant in the department of art and design. He also teaches an introductory course in jewelry/metals. He is currently a master of fine arts candidate in his second year of graduate school.

He is the son of Patsy and the late Miller Tiger of Stillwater. His grandparents are James and Dovie Goins of Checotah.

School reunions

Jones Academy

TULSA — A Jones Academy Reunion will be held from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., June 3 at Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center.

Former students, family, and friends are encouraged to attend and bring a covered dish, pictures, and memorabilia, etc.

The community center is located at 8611 S. Union.

The reunion is being coordinated by Nancy and Belinda Byrd and Becky Wilson.

For more information, e-mail: tipimkr@hotmail.com.

Seneca Indian School

WYANDOTTE — Seneca Indian School will hold its annual reunion at 10 a.m., June 3 at the Wyandotte Tribal Center.

Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish to the dinner that will be held at noon. A meeting will be held after the dinner, followed by an auction to raise money for the alumni association.

As many alumni are enlisted in the military, the association is raising funds to erect a veterans' memorial on the property where the school was located. The association seeks donations for the memorial as well as the names of students that are veterans.

For more information, contact Gertrude Anderson John at (918) 453-9330 or 1206 E. Boone, Tahlequah, OK 74464.

Chilocco Alumni Association

OKLAHOMA CITY — The National 2000 Reunion of the Chilocco Alumni Association will be held June 8 through 11 at the Biltmore Hotel.

The agenda includes:

- June 8 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., registration, 6:30 to 8 p.m., gourd dancing, and 8:15 to 11:30 p.m., grand entry and intertribal dancing;
- June 9 — 9 a.m., registration and 7 to 11:30 p.m., snapshot show and juke box tunes;
- June 10 — 7 to 9:30 a.m., veterans' breakfast, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., registration, 10 a.m. to noon, general membership business meeting, 4 to 5:30 p.m., banquet ticket sales, 5 to 8 p.m., banquet and awards, and 9 p.m., dance and surprises;
- June 11 — 9 to 10:30 a.m., services with tribal hymns, 10:30 to noon, executive board meeting, and noon, adjournment.

A memorabilia room, hospitality room, and arts and crafts booths will be open throughout the reunion.

Rooms are available at the Biltmore Hotel for \$59 per night plus tax. To receive the special room rate, those making reservations should mention that they are attending the reunion. The hotel number is 1 (800) 522-6620. The hotel is located at Interstate 40 and Meridian.

Society

Arrivals

Elan Dreadfulwater

BAUMHOLDER, Germany — Elan Thomas Dreadfulwater was born on Feb. 26 to Joe and Katie Dreadfulwater of Baumholder, Germany.

He weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and was 21 and one-half inches in length.

His paternal grandparents are Pauline and Ray Hammons Jr. of Eufaula and Jess and Diane Dreadfulwater of Muskogee. His maternal grandparents are John and Judy Nemila of Lancaster, Calif.

Dreadfulwater is the great-grandson of the late Washington David and Martha Belcher Cummings of Eufaula.

He has one sister, Chenoa.

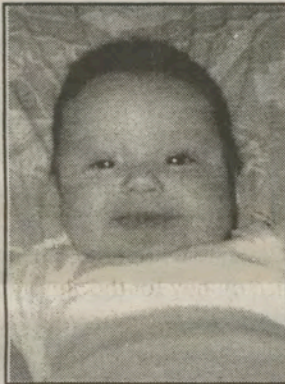
Tyler Fields

ADA — Tyler Little Bear Fields was born on Dec. 21 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital to Crystal Yargee and Kevin Roberts Fields.

He weighed 5 pounds and 15 ounces and was 21 and one-half inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Phillip and Kizzie Yargee of Wetumka.

His paternal grandparents are Sharon Epperson and Kent Fields of Weleetka and Mickey Roberts of Bethel.



Fields

Dakota Naylor

TULSA — Dakota Shane Naylor was born on April 4 at Hillcrest Medical Center to Crystal Alane Naylor of Tulsa.

He weighed 5 pounds and 14 ounces and was 19 and one-half inches in length.

His grandparents are Harold and Linda Naylor of Tulsa.

His great-grandparents are: the late Joseph Thomas and Aileen Marie Harrell Rogers, Tulsa; the late Robert and Feney Rogers, Tulsa; the late Percy and Antionetta Leitka Harrell; and the late Orien and Ruby Naylor, Drumright.

Anthony Noahubi III

DALLAS — Anthony John "A.J." Noahubi III was born on Jan. 1 at Methodist Medical Center to Karen Cummings and Anthony Noahubi of Grand Prairie, Texas.

He weighed 9 pounds and 10.6 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Loyd and Betsy Ahtone Cummings of Grand Prairie.

His paternal grandparents are Raymond and Jacqueline Williams Davis of Valliant and the late Cornelius Noahubi.

His maternal great-grandparents are the late Washington David and Martha Belcher Cummings, Eufaula and Vernon and Juanita Daugomah Ahtone of

Carnegie. His paternal great-grandfather is Dennis Williams Jr. of Dallas.

Noahubi has one brother, Vance Cummings.

He is a descendant of the Muscogee, Choctaw, and Kiowa tribes.

Legend Taylor

OKMULGEE — Legend Falcon Taylor was born April 14 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to J.R. and Melinda Taylor of Henryetta.

He weighed 9 pounds and was 21 inches in length.

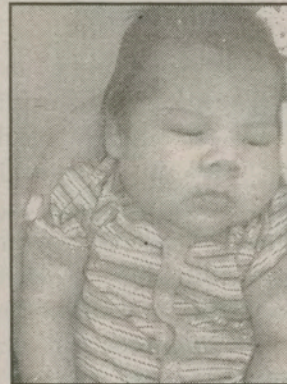
He belongs to the Wind Clan and Peach Ground and is the son of the Bird Clan and Nuyaka Tribal Town.

His maternal grandparents are Sonny and Betsy Taryole of Henryetta.

Paternal grandparents are Sally Ann Taylor of Henryetta and the late Walter Taylor, Yardeka.

His maternal great-grandparents are Lillie and the late Tom Gouge of Henryetta and Van and Sophie Taryole of Nuyaka. His paternal great-grandparents are: Edna and the late Martin Mitchell of Henryetta; the late Lizzie Tiger; Marchie Taylor; and Sarah Harjo of Henryetta.

He has one brother, Ashton, age six.



Taylor

Birthdays

Eco Barnett

BRISTOW — Eco Tasahce Barnett celebrated his first birthday on April 1 with a *tafvmpece* dinner held at Bristow Indian Community Center.

Barnett belongs to the Deer Clan and Ocevpofo Tribal Town and is the son of the Wind Clan and Kvnicate Tribal Town.

Among those attending were: his parents, Roger and Stephanie Barnett of Bristow; paternal grandparents, Rachel Barnett and Joseph Barnett, both of Bristow; maternal grandparents, Jo Ann Skaggs of Mescalero, N.M. and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Henryetta; great-grandparents, Nicey Wilson of the Kvnicate area and Thomas Berryhill of Wilson community; great-aunts and uncles, Ida Micco of Welty, Susie Monday of Okmulgee, Jacob Barnett of Depew, and Edward and Dicey Barnett of Wilson community, and many other relatives and friends.

Barnett attends Muscogee Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center.

Tayo Chee

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Tayo Chayton Chee celebrated his first birthday on April 7. He is the son Rainy Dawn Ortiz and Timothy Chee of Albuquerque, N.M.



Barnett

His maternal grandparents are Joy Harjo and Simon Ortiz.

He is the great-grandson of Wynema Baker Jewell and the late William Foster Jr.

Chee is a descendant of Henry Marsey Harjo and Katie Monahwee.

He has two sisters, Krista and Desiray.

Lola Hill

WETUMKA — Lola Elaine Hill celebrated her third birthday at her home on March 25 with family and friends.

She is the daughter of Kenneth and Rebecca Hill.

Her maternal grandparents are Billy Woodrow and Lola Fields of Wetumka.

Hill's maternal great-grandmother is the late Eliza Yargee of Wetumka. Her maternal great-great-grandparents are the late Daniel and Polly Beaver, Wetumka.

She belongs to the Bird Clan.



Chee



Hill

Dylan Jack

HENRYETTA — Dylan Dewayne Jack celebrated his second birthday on March 17 with a race car theme.

He is the son of Lanissa Jack and Chris Melton.

His maternal grandparents are Lee Ann Jack of Hanna and Angela Jack and Darren Fullmore, both of Henryetta.

His paternal grandparents are Steve and Theresa Melton of Henryetta.

His maternal great-grandmother is Louma Jack of Dustin.

Jack attends Kiddie College Daycare in Henryetta.



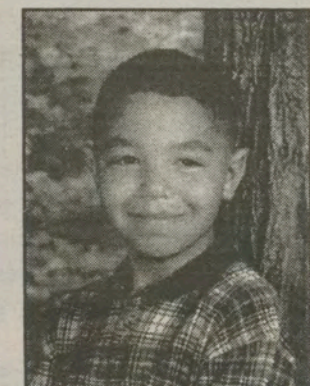
Jack

Jordan Tiger

TULSA — Jordan James Tiger is celebrating his eighth birthday on May 18 at the Skate World with family and friends.

Tiger is the son of Shawn Tiger of Glenpool.

His grandparents are Doris and the late Henry Tiger.



Tiger

Obituaries-religion

MARTHA BILLY

OKLAHOMA CITY — Funeral services for Martha J. Billy were held Feb. 23 at Glorietta Baptist Church.

A wake service was held on Feb. 22.

She died Feb. 19 in Oklahoma City. Billy was born March 7, 1923 to Billy and Bessie McCoser Palmer of Holdenville.

Billy was actively involved in Christian work. She was a member of Snake Creek Baptist Church, Seminole.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; a brother, Kenneth Palmer of Tulsa; and two sisters, Betty Jones of Houston, Texas and Lucy Duckworth of Irving, Texas.

Billy is survived by: her husband, Thompson; son, Randy Miller of Horton, Kan.; daughter, Johnnie Taylor of Holton, Kan.; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; one sister; Helen Chupco of Muskogee; and two brothers, Houston Palmer of Wetumka and Louis Palmer of Holdenville.

Interment was at Arlington Memory Gardens in Oklahoma City.

JUANITA BOWMAN

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Juanita June Bowman were held March 20 at Smith Funeral Chapel with Rev. Bob Warman officiating and Euchee Tribal Elder Mose Cahwee assisting.

Bowman died March 15 at Claremore Indian Hospital. She was born March 16, 1937 to Gertrude and Riley John.

She was a homemaker and lived in Sapulpa most of her life. She attended Sapulpa Public Schools, graduating in 1955. On Sept. 6, 1985 she married Mark Bowman in Sapulpa.

Preceding her in death were her parents and one brother, Riley John Jr.

She is survived by five daughters, Deniece Shibley of Sapulpa, Dianna Thomas of Bartlesville, Dana Johnson, Donna Snyder-Darmanin, and Debra Ray all of Tulsa; 17 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; sisters, Wanda Hill and Jeniece Wolfe of Sapulpa; and many relatives and friends.

Honorary pallbearers were: Christopher Miller; David Rogers Jr.; Butch Ray; Jimmy Slaughter II; Aaron Melson; Donald Shibley; Andrew Melson; Dustin Rogers; Randall Ray; and Donald Slaughter.

NADA CRINER

BIXBY — Funeral service for Nada H. Criner were held April 28 at Leonard & Marker Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Willie McCaslin officiating.

Criner died April 25 in Bixby. She was born May 22, 1914 in Okmulgee to Robert and Mattie Bruner Anderson.

Criner had resided in the Bixby area for most of her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Concharty United Methodist Church. Criner was active in many of the area's senior citizens groups. She enjoyed cooking, going to garage sales, and dining out.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Devo; three brothers, Sonny, Robert, and Dave; and three sisters, Ethel, Anna and Irene.

Criner is survived by: son, Russell of Okmulgee; two sisters, Margie Harrell of Okmulgee and Caroline Opperman of Royal Oaks, Mich.; three grandchildren, Russell Criner II of Okmulgee, Cari Criner of Mesquite, Nev., and Cynthia Mills of Bixby; and three great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Bixby Cemetery.

LEWIS FISH

HANNA — Funeral services for Lewis Bernie Fish were held Feb. 18. with ceremonial grounds speakers officiating.

He died Feb. 14 in Tulsa. Lewis was born July 16, 1932 in Dustin to Mannie and Tanner Williams Fish.

Fish married Helen Wilson in 1953. He was a retired truck driver and made his home in Okmulgee in 1995. Fish was an artist and craftsman. He was a member of Weogufkee Ceremonial Ground. He served as acting chief for two years until he was chosen to be the its medicine man for life.

He was preceded in death by his parents and six sisters.

Lewis is survived by: his wife; three daughters, Betty Beaver of Okmulgee, Angela Martinez of Oklahoma City, and Cora Watson of Bartlesville; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Anthony Loman; Wilbur Gouge; Richard Beaver; Sandy Watson; Bill Deo Jr.; Rocky Lindsey; and Cho Lindsey.

Interment was at Hanna Cemetery.

HERMAN HARPER

WEWOKA — Funeral services for Herman Eugene Harper were held April 7 at First United Methodist Church of Wewoka with Revs. Henry Bell and Jake Cleaver officiating.

He died April 4 at Mission Hill Hospital in Shawnee. Herman was born Dec. 15, 1918, north of Wewoka, to Alfred and Anna Harper.

Harper graduated from Wewoka High School in 1940. He served in the Army during World War II throughout North Africa and Europe as a Forward Observer for the 2nd Artillery Observation Battalion. Upon returning home from the war, Herman attended Parks Air College/St. Louis University and Spartan school of Aeronautics. He was employed with American Airlines as an airframe and power plant mechanic until he retired in 1982.

In 1958 he married Mary E. Watkins. He was a member of and the acting chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1311. He also belonged to the 2nd Field Artillery Observation Battalion Association. Harper, also a member of the First United Methodist Church, was one of the founding members of the Methodist Men's Fellowship Breakfast.

He was preceded in death by his parents and great-grandfather, Jesse Chisholm.

Harper is survived by: his wife of the home; two sons, Tim of Tulsa and Terry of Broken Arrow; four sisters, Eleanor Harper and Louise Horton both of Wewoka, Florence Harper of Tulsa, Lucille Gibson of Bartlesville; four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Bennie Wilkerson; Roger Kelly; Ben Lamey; Greg Arbuckle; Rusty Farthing; and Sam Horton.

Honorary pallbearers were: Methodist Men's Fel-

lowship Breakfast members; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1311; and Dewight Peck.

Interment was at Oakwood Cemetery in Wewoka.

ANDREW HAWKINS

LENNA — Funeral services for Andrew Hawkins were held April 28 at Little Coweta Baptist Church with Rev. Rick Robertson officiating.

A wake service was held April 27 at Merritt Funeral Home Chapel in Eufaula.

He died April 26 at Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa. He was born Aug. 20, 1919 at Stidham to Dan and Rhoda Bean Hawkins.

He married Elizabeth Hawkins on Sept. 29, 1941. He served in the Army Air Force during the World War II. Hawkins was a retired farmer. He was a member of Little Coweta Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; four sisters, Annie Buck, Susie Givens, Maybell Skaggs, Dollie Boyd; and one brother, Bud Hawkins.

He is survived by: his wife; five sons, Andrew Hawkins Jr. of Quitman, Texas, Gary Hawkins of Shawnee, Ronnie Hawkins of Eufaula, Danny and Eugene Hawkins, both of Stidham; two daughters, Brenda Earls of Eufaula, Glenda Welty of Oklahoma City; one sister, Grace Overman of Eufaula; ten grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many relatives and relatives.

Pallbearers were: Glen Hampton; Bill Nixon; John Branch; Jim Nixon; Jim Davis; Phil McIntosh.

Honorary pallbearers were: John Brown; Richard Tucker; James Skaggs; Charles Skaggs; Kenneth Loma; and Paul Jones.

Interment was at the Hawkins-McIntosh Family Cemetery.

LORETTA PURDIN

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Loretta Jean Purdin were held Feb. 23 at Butler Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Robert Washington officiating.

She died Feb. 18 in Muskogee. She was born on Sept. 2, 1940 in Tahlequah to Timmie Lee and Grace Escoc.

Purdin was an active member of Muskogee Indian Community and its elders' organization. She was a baker at Luby's until her retirement.

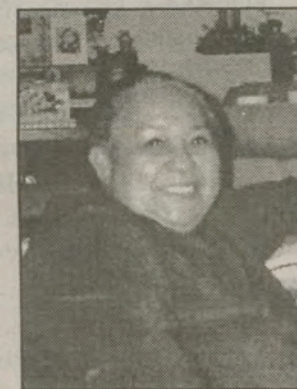
She is survived by: Gene Purdin; six children, Sharon McMahon of Muskogee, Ricky Purdin of Killeen, Texas, Rusty Purdin of Ashland, Kent., Tina Webb of Ironton, Ohio, Tony Purdin of Muskogee, Starla Viera of Somerset, MA; two sisters, Gloria Fine of Muskogee and Phyllis Weber of Huber Heights, Ohio; her mother of Muskogee; 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Leon Yahola; Ricky Upton; David Fine; Sam Scraper; Kent Miller; and Thomas Adair.

Honorary pallbearers were: Mike Macomb; Ray Broyles; and Harley Little.

Interment was held at Butler Creek Cemetery.

please see OBITUARIES-RELIGION..., page 11



Purdin

Tribal peoples observe day of fasting and prayer

OKMULGEE — Spirit Fest 2000 — the second day of fasting and prayer — was held in April at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex.

The impetus for this day began with a gathering discuss issues facing Christian leaders within the Indian churches. "One in particular had the foresight to see how unity could be brought about..." Alfred Berryhill, Bearers of the Cross, Inc. member, said.

"As a people, we are often taught that action speaks louder than words. A nation divided must be called together by its leaders, both spiritual as well as civil," Berryhill said. This "action" was evidenced in a plan for a special day to be set aside for prayer and fasting, Berryhill said.

Inspired by the unity exhibited by the Biblical Israelites in their worship practices, it was the consensus of this group to rally native peoples together and, with one voice, worship the Creator.

"Biblically, the Israelite people celebrated the Great Day of Atonement. To commemorate this day, the Israelites' Levitical people were to sound a horn to begin and announce this day. All the people of the nation were to gather together and fast and pray for forgiveness," Berryhill said.

This year's event was a cooperative effort of Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, the National Council, Morning Star Ministries, and Bearers of the Cross, Inc.

Spirit Fest 2000



Pictured, left to right, are: Tribal Elder George Bunny; Rev. Niegel Bigpond, Two Rivers Evangelistic Center; and Rev. Harry Long. Bunny and Long were recognized during Spirit Fest 2000 for their efforts to preserve Maskoke culture and longtime service to Indian evangelism, respectively.

photos by Gerald Wofford



A memorial dedication and presentation in honor of Rev. Jimmy Hill was made to his family. His family, pictured left to right, are: brother, Belvin Hill; wife, Ella; and children, JoMekko and Vanessa.



Morning Star Youth Group Members Kayla Winn and Candice Baker perform the "Lord's Prayer" in sign language.

Obituaries-religion

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Gratitude

In loving memory of our mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother we would like to thank everyone who sent flowers, food, and prayers.

A special thanks is extended to Hickory Ground #2 Baptist Church for the kindness and comfort offered to us and to Rev. Robert Washington for the wonderful service. God bless everyone,

Cynthia Day Family

We would like to extend our gratitude to Rev. Wallace Gambler, for the beautiful service, and all of our friends and family who were there by our side in our time of need.

A very special thanks is offered to Bob McLemore of Eastern Oklahoma Mortuary of Tulsa. We are grateful for his help and kindness. Thank you and God bless you,

Amos Tiger Family

Religion

Wekiwa Baptist holding May revival

SAND SPRINGS — Wekiwa Baptist Church is holding a revival May 25 through 28 beginning at 7:30 nightly.

Sunday morning services will begin at 11 a.m., May 28.

Rev. Mitchell Taylor is the evangelist. The song leader is Ruth Howe and pianist is Juanita Kelly.

Refreshments will be served following services.

Singing to be held at old Afonakee home

I.X.L. — A gospel singing is will begin at 7 p.m., May 26 at the old Chebony Afonakee homestead, located near Buckeye church.

Visitors are requested to bring lawn chairs; refreshments will be available.

Gospel singing and arts and crafts show set

COWETA — A gospel singing and arts and crafts show will be held at Koweta Indian Community Center from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., May 27.

First, second, and third place honors will be awarded for show entries. Booth space is available for \$10. Participants will need to bring their tables in order to setup. In the event of inclement weather, the arts and crafts show and sale will be cancelled.

For more information contact the community center at: (918) 486-9904; (918) 486-7377; or Wilma Berryhill at (918) 486-1170.

Memorial gospel singing scheduled

BRAGGS — Sand Springs Baptist Church is hosting the Ward Coachman Memorial Gospel singing beginning at 7 p.m., May 28.

The master of ceremonies is Curtis Kinney.

All singers and listeners are welcome. It is requested that those attending bring lawn chairs. Concessions will be available.

For more information, call Curtis Kinney at (918) 682-4703.

Springfield church to hold memorial singing

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church is holding its annual memorial singing beginning at 7 p.m. on May 28.

An arts and crafts sale and grocery basket raffles will be held also. Concessions will be available.

From Okemah, drive two miles south on state highway 27, drive four miles east, and two miles south.

Montesoma church seeking pastor

HAYDENVILLE — Montesoma Baptist Church is seeking a bi-vocational pastor.

The small, rural congregation is affiliated with the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association.

Its members are primarily Mvskokvlke; although a Creek pastor is preferred. All resumes will be accepted by the pulpit committee.

Send resumes to: Pulpit Committee, P.O. Box 292, Okemah, OK 74859.

Mvskoke hymn books available for sale

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mvskoke hymn books are available for sale at \$7 and \$10 (shipping costs included).

All mail orders are \$10.00. Cashier's checks, money orders, and cash is accepted.

To place an order or more information, contact: George Bunny, 2941 Cashion Place, Oklahoma City, OK 73112; or call (405) 947-7752.

Nation honors Ocmulgee National Monument park ranger for service



photo by Gerald Wofford

Sylvia Flowers, center, an Ocmulgee National Monument park ranger, is awarded with a plaque honoring her for her services in protecting and preserving the traditional Muscogee lands in Georgia. Also pictured is Muscogee Nation Cultural Preservation Manager Joyce Bear and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver. The award was given during the 50th anniversary of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes held in April.

Trust reform

continued from page 1

of comprehensive Indian trust fund reform."

The IIM trust fund accounts in the Southern Plains, Eastern Oklahoma, and Northwest Regions of BIA were the last to be converted from an antiquated accounting system to a commercial off-the-shelf system created and operated by SEI Investments, Inc., Oaks, Penn. The new system will provide basic receipt, accounting, investment, scheduled disbursing and reporting functions to account holders — functions that are common to commercial trust funds management systems.

SEI, a major industry provider of trust management systems, will operate the TFAS system while the day-to-day trust fund accounting activities will continue to be performed by OST's Office of Trust Funds Management (OTFM). The Trust Fund Accounting System is the same basic system in use at more than 150 other major financial and investment institutions.

This conversion successfully completes an effort that began August 1998 at BIA's Western, Pacific, and Alaska Region pilot sites. Since that initial work was conducted, over 262,000 IIM trust fund accounts have been converted to TFAS. This effort included manually examining, verifying, and correcting the account data prior to conversion and testing the validity and accuracy of the data once it was on the new system.

Office of Trust Funds Management Director Donna Erwin, whose office spearheaded the conversion effort is very satisfied with TFAS. "The utilization of this commercial trust system provides state-of-the-market software and enables the government to participate with other private sector trust companies in future enhancements and products of the system."

Eventually, the functions of TFAS will be interfaced with an asset management system currently under development. The BIA's Trust Asset and Accounting Management System (TAAMS) will be respon-

sible for tracking the land title, lease, billing, and accounts receivable information for improved asset management. The interface of TFAS and TAAMS will complete the information circle on account and asset management to tribes and IIM beneficiaries.

The conversion of the trust fund accounts to TFAS is one of eleven separate projects described in the revised (Feb. 29, 2000) High Level Implementation Plan, the Department's framework to implement comprehensive trust reform.

Programs-notices

continued from page 5

The elderly nutrition program operates nutrition centers in: Bristow; Dewar; Coweta; Eufaula; Holdenville; Muskogee; Okmulgee; Okemah; and Wetumka.

Green Thumb seeks nominees for contest

OKLAHOMA CITY — Green Thumb Inc., the nation's oldest and largest provider of the Senior Community Service Employment Program is seeking nominees for its 2000 Oklahoma Outstanding Older Worker contest.

Employers throughout the state are encouraged to nominate older workers. A panel of independent judges will select five outstanding older workers from these nominations to be recognized in their local communities. One outstanding older worker will be selected to represent Oklahoma at national prime time awards events to be held in Washington D.C. in October.

For more information, contact the Green Thumb State Office at: (405) 715-5700; or view its web site at www.greenthumbok.org.

Society

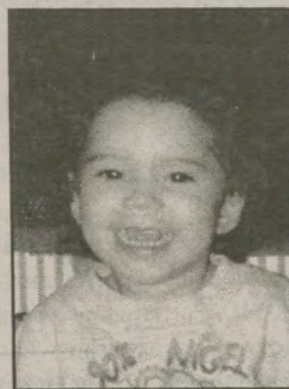
continued from page 9

Nicole Withers

HOLDENVILLE — Nicole B. Withers celebrated her second birthday at her home on April 22.

She is the daughter of Michael and Barbara Withers.

Those attending were: maternal grandmother, Lucy Sewell of Holdenville; paternal grandparents, Bob and Betty Withers of Bowlegs; great-grandparents, Woodrow and Betty Stringfellow of Holdenville; and other relatives and friends.



Withers

Achievement

Cyclist invited to attend regional camp

TULSA — Mountain and road racing cyclist William Quillman has been invited to attend a regional camp in June at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

Quillman, a junior state champion, is sponsored by

Trek Bicycles and T-Town Bicycles; he rides for the Tulsa Wheelmen. Quillman aspires to be a professional racer.

Quillman is the son of Karon Tiger.

His grandmother is Pauline Sunday Tiger of Tulsa.

Family reunions

Afonakee

I.X.L. — A reunion of the descendants of Hoktuce Afonakee will be held on May 27 at the old home-stand located near Buckeye church.

Activities include: 10 a.m., horseshoe tournament; 11 a.m., a 60s era style show for the youth with prizes; noon, dinner; 1:30 p.m., introduction of relatives; 2:30 p.m., 50s and 60s era style show for adults; a talent show and games will conclude the reunion.

All visitors are requested to bring a covered dish and lawn chairs.

For more information, call Mary Walters at (918) 623-0579

Chalakee-Berryhill

BROKEN ARROW — Chalakee-Berryhill Family reunion will be held May 27 through 29 at Springtown Methodist Church.

Family and friends of Fannie M. Berryhill Chalakee and the late Rev. John Chalakee are invited to attend the annual reunion.

Weekend activities include: 7 p.m., May 27, an auction; May 28, morning worship; a fish fry; horseshoe contest; and games for all ages.

For more information, call (918) 486-5461.

Scott

SAPULPA — The descendents of Samuel and Nancy McIntosh Scott, Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott, and Hepsey Scott Lewis are holding a family reunion on June 3 at Sapulpa Community Center.

Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish.

For more information, call Joan Grider at (918) 291-6880 or Lillie McIntosh at (918) 836-7931.

The center is located at 1020 N. Brown St.

Smith

LAMAR — The Smith Family Reunion will be held at Middle Creek Baptist Church beginning at 9 a.m., May 27.

Games for all ages will be held. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish.

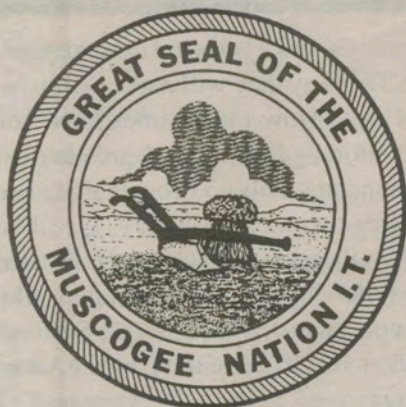
For more information, call Mark Smith at (918) 656-3410.

Wacoche

TAHLEQUAH — The Wacoche Family Reunion will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 10 at the Johnson Wacoche homeplace.

Relatives and friends are requested to bring a covered dish, lawn chairs, and family stories.

For more information, call Jean Wacoche Wilson (785) 832-1151.



The Muscogee Nation News

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May 2000, 8 pages

Partnership makes home ownership possible for citizens

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver joined the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation, local mortgage lenders, and Fannie Mae, the nation's largest source of financing for home mortgages, to announce a new mortgage initiative created to provide affordable homeownership opportunities for families who are members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"I am very pleased that the housing authority in partnership with Fannie Mae is providing Creek citizens with affordable housing opportunities," said Beaver. "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is very committed to this goal and this is an important step."

This new initiative, offered through the housing authority's Mortgage Assistance Program, provides a five-year forgivable second mortgage loan for up to \$25,000 or 50 percent, whichever is less, of the sales price of the home utilizing Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act funds. This grant-like loan is used for down payment and closing cost assistance and is available to tribal members earning at or below 80 percent of the national median income of \$40,150 for a family of four. Participating lenders can use this second loan to allow borrowers to purchase homes with no down payment from their own funds.

"The housing authority recognizes the importance of partnerships with Fannie Mae and the opportunities they provide for our clients," said Ron Qualls, housing authority executive director. "The goal of home ownership among members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is more attainable thanks to this partnership."

The announcement was made at the home of Darren and Bonnie Alexander in Okmulgee, one of



photo by Gerald Wofford

Pictured in front of the Alexander home are: Rex Smitherman, director of the Fannie Mae's Oklahoma Partnership Office; City of Okmulgee Mayor Gary Kelley; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; and Bonnie and Darren Alexander.

Muscogee stars in Tulsa Indian Actor's Workshop production

TULSA — Tribal citizen Anthony Wamego of Muskogee recently starred in the Tulsa Indian Actor's Workshop production "The Baby Blues."

Wamego plays the character of "Noble," a carefree, aging fancy dancer with a penchant for young ladies and 49s.

Camp made and "snag" secured, he is just comfortably settling into the environment of the latest powwow when his reality is shaken — he meets the daughter he had fathered, 18 years earlier, at the same pow wow grounds.

After living life chasing the powwow circuit, Noble contemplates his new responsibility with intentions to do the right thing.



photo by Stephanie Barnett

Anthony Wamego, Muskogee-Seminole, left, in a scene with Julie Gersib and Tim Fields, Muskogee-Cherokee.

"Anthony Wamego tackles Noble with sure comic timing," wrote Tulsa World Writer Robert S. Walters in a review of the production.

The play was directed by Merlaine Angwall and written by Drew Hayden Taylor.

the first families to purchase a home under this initiative.

"This mortgage assistance program is a blessing," said Darren Alexander. "We wouldn't have been able to purchase a home without the grant assistance. Thank you to everyone who made this possible."

"I'd like to congratulate Darren and Bonnie on becoming new homeowners," said City of Okmulgee Mayor Gary Kelley. "This is a wonderful opportunity for families to reach the American dream. I applaud the work that has been done by the Creek Nation Housing Authority, Fannie Mae, and the lenders represented here today to make this program a reality."

"We are very committed to increasing homeownership opportunities in partnership with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma," said Rex

please see **FANNIE MAE**..., page 2

Maskoke actor cast in role originally played by father 25 years ago

CHICAGO—Tim Sampson is currently appearing in the stage play "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" at the Steppenwolf Theater.

The play opened April 16 and ran through June 4. Following its run in Chicago, it will appear in London, England.

"Tickets are sold out and the play is getting good reviews from the Chicago newspapers," Norma Jean Bible, Sampson's aunt, said. Sampson is playing the role of "Chief Bromden," the part his father, the late Will Sampson, was cast in 25 years ago.

Sampson was born and raised in Okmulgee and now resides in California. He is the grandson of the late Mable Hill. He is the nephew of Bible and Vena Randall.

"He has many friends and relatives here that wish him well," Bible said.



Sampson

Letters to the editor

Alumnus seeking former classmates

Editor:

I am looking for a former classmate that graduated from Okmulgee High School in 1960. Planning is underway for our 40th class reunion and I would like to contact everyone in our class.

Our class had 131 graduates; eight are deceased and I have not been able to locate two—one of which is Jimmy Dale Robertson. It has been 40 years since anyone has heard from him. His birth date is June 6, 1942 and he was born in Taft, Calif.. He has a brother, Benny Ray Robertson, that would have graduated from Okmulgee High School in 1957. We understand that his mother was Muscogee (Creek); her name was Betty Robertson.

If anyone has information regarding Robertson, contact: Judith Harrison Hahne, 1311 W. 6th; (918) 756-4675; or e-mail nanajh@msn.com.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Judith Hahne, Okmulgee

Citizen wants to contact mother

Editor:

I have been trying to contact my biological mother, Christine M. Hill. Her father is the late Tony Hill. My mother left me with my father when I was a baby. I'm trying to get in contact with her as well as my brothers and sisters. I talked to her about eight years ago. Now I am willing to take her back as my mother. I would like to receive letters from her. I would like to contact all of my aunts, uncles, and cousins from the Hill family.

I am also requesting books on Native Americans, specifically stompdances.

Contact me by writing: Robert Mitchell #220126, P.O. Box 97, McAlester, OK 74502-0097.

Robert Mitchell, McAlester

Man questions U.S. restrictions on feathers

Editor:

My father and grandfather told me that the feathers an Indian chooses to wear is the flag of the Indian people. This has been true and has been tradition for a long time—starting before the white man came, before the white man's religion. The ceremonial grounds of the Five Tribes, along with the powwow grounds of the plains Indians, were here long before the churches.

It was told to me that each feather signifies something to an Indian. If an person wears an eagle feather,

that person is to be respected and honored, for this is the flag of the Five Tribes and Plains Indians. Eagle feathers are the flag of the Indian people. The United States has made all kinds of rules and laws about the eagle feather. Why? They burn their flag. No Indian burns their feather.

My elders told me that if a person wears the horned owl feather, it is said that this person is wise and has knowledge of doctoring and healing. Only an elderly, powerful medicine man should have the right to wear the horned owl feather. Many younger people wear them today, but they do not know their tradition. They don't know that the owl feather can harm and work against someone who doesn't have the knowledge of medicine. It will give headaches, among other things.

A person who is good in the woods and good at climbing wears the feather of a woodpecker. A person who is athletic and fast in stickball wars is allowed to wear the feather of the falcon. A person who is good and does good deeds and who is friendly to others—no matter what—has the right to wear the feather of a white crane. A man who knows the war songs that make enemies go to sleep wears the crow or blue jay feather. A good fisherman wears the feather of the kingfisher.

These are some of the things that show our tradition and our way of life. So I say, how come there are laws against how we wear our feathers in our own country? A lot of us Veterans have U.S. flags, so how come we can't have feathers anytime, anywhere, and use them according to our tradition?

Tony Mitchell Sr., Dustin

Citizen wants justice for murdered daughter

Editor:

My daughter, Polly Sullivan, was murdered on Christmas Day 1998 at Crooked Tree Apartments on the old Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, Colo. She died as the result of 14 stab wounds.

On March 16, 1999, Denver District Attorney Bill Ritter filed first degree murder charges against Willie Clyde Safford in the case of my daughter.

In May 1999, Ritter dropped the murder charges against Safford because of an improper investigation of her murder by Denver homicide as well as his office.

Our family and friends and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver have made inquiries Ritter on behalf of Polly—trying to get Denver to reinstate murder charges against Safford as initial Denver homicide detectives say that they are 99 percent sure Safford is the murderer.

The partnership with the Creek Nation Housing Authority is a part of Fannie Mae's "HouseOklahoma" investment plan, a five-year \$4 billion initiative to finance affordable housing for 58,000 families throughout the state of Oklahoma.

For more information about this initiative, members of the Muscogee Nation may contact the Mortgage Assistance Program at (918) 759-4126.

For more information on Fannie Mae's affordable mortgage products or for a list of local lenders, consumers may call Fannie Mae's Consumer Resource Center at 1-800-7FANNIE (1-888-326-6694), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The district attorney's office is giving my daughter's case low priority. They say they will make a decision by the middle of July. How many times have you heard of a district attorney filing first degree murder charges against someone, only to drop charges and set the murderer free two months later?

Please help my family get murder charges reinstated by contacting the following addresses to inquire why all avenues were not exhausted to prosecute Safford:

• A. William Ritter Jr., Office of the District Attorney, 303 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 1300, Denver, CO 80204, call, (720) 913-9017, or e-mail, awr@denverda.org;

• Sheila Rappaport, Office of the District Attorney, 303 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 1300, Denver, CO 80204, call, (720) 913-9101, or e-mail, sar@denverda.org;

• Wellington Webb, Office of the Major, City and County Building, Denver, CO 80202, call, (303) 640-2721, or e-mail, mayorden@c.i.den.co.us

Lieurance Sullivan, Aurora, Colo.

*For the latest in tribal news
tune in to the
Muscogee Nation Radio Program
9:30 a.m., Wednesdays on
Okmulgee's KOKL-AM 1240*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, circulation

Fannie Mae

continued from page 1

Smitherman, director of the Fannie Mae's Oklahoma Partnership Office. "Affordable housing and saving for a down payment are two major barriers to homeownership. This is a creative way of leveraging NAHASDA funds that will have a direct impact on homeownership."

Local lenders participating in this initiative are Holliday American Mortgage Company, Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Okmulgee, and First Horizon Home Loans.

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: the February regular session held Feb. 26; the March regular session held March 25; and the quarterly session held April 29.

Feb. 26 regular session

Absent were: **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee District and **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District.

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

The following veto message was acted upon:

- approved unanimously (23-0) to let stand **Chief R. Perry Beaver's** veto of Tribal Resolution 00-09, approving the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for the work;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (23-0) National Council Resolution 00-02, recognizing **Rev. Harry Long** for his years of service in the ministry.

Rev. Long is tribal citizen residing in Muskogee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) as amended National Council Act 00-27, recognizing baby **Mason Lawrence Carpitcher** as the "Millennium Baby" of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Carpitcher was born six weeks early on Jan. 1 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. The act provided for an appropriation of \$1,000—amended to \$2,000—for the purchase of medical supplies and baby related items;

He is the son of **Lawrence Carpitcher** and **Jennifer Cox** of Okmulgee.

- approved (11-11-1) to return to committee TR 00-11, confirming the nomination of **Jessie Huff Durham** as attorney general of the Nation;

voting no were: **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Harjo**, Creek; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Little**, Muskogee; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Smith**, Okfuskee;

abstaining was **McGirt**, Tukvptce;

- approved (18-4) TR 00-12, confirming the nomination of **Enus Wilson Jr.** as gaming commissioner of the Muscogee Nation;

voting no were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **T. Pickering**, Creek;

abstaining was **Little**, Muskogee;

Wilson is a tribal citizen residing in Sapulpa.

- approved (20-2-1) TR 00-13, confirming the nomi-

nation of **Sandra Golden** to serve as a member of the board of directors of the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise;

voting no were: **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **T. Pickering**, Creek;

abstaining was **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Golden** is a tribal citizen residing in Weleetka.

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-14, the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for the work;

- approved (20-2-1) NCR 00-01, authorizing the class III negotiating team to submit a tribal-state compact for off-track pari-mutuel simulcast horse racing with authority to further negotiate;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

abstaining was **Johnson**, Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) as amended NCA 00-04, authorizing the expenditure of a U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Grant received by the Lighthouse Administration and appropriating 25 percent matching funds in the amount of \$31,073;

- approved unanimously (23-0) to return to committee NCA 00-21, authorizing an appropriation in the amount of \$43,433 for improvements to the Claude A. Cox Omniplex in preparation for the annual Creek Nation Festival;

- approved (20-1-3), NCA 00-25, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into a "pari-mutuel service agreement" and "race information agreement" with Las Vegas Dissemination, Inc.;

voting no was **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; abstaining were: **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Mosquito**, Creek; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) to return to committee NCA 00-28, amending NCA 97-07 (establishing a permanent grant program for churches and ceremonial grounds within the Muscogee Nation) as amended by NCA 98-19 and revising program guidelines;

- approved unanimously (23-0) to return to committee NCA 00-29, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to purchase a manufactured office building for Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-30, appropriating funds in the amount of \$55,000 for road construction and repair at the Claude A. Cox Omniplex as authorized in NCA 95-81, as amended by NCA 99-128;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-31, appropriating funds in the amount of \$20,000 for an additional access driveway at Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo as authorized in NCA 95-81, as amended by NCA 99-128; and

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-32, amending NCA 98-77 to establish a permanent Family Drug Court Program. The act makes the Muscogee Nation Judicial system program permanent by repealing the expiration date of the Family Drug Court Pilot Project by amending NCA 98-77 to rename it as the Family Drug Court Program. The program's intent is to reduce the incidence of drug and alcohol abuse within the Muscogee Nation by integrating alcohol and drug treatment and other rehabilitative services

and resources within the Nation's judicial system.

March 25 regular session

Absent were: **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee District and **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee District.

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- failed (10-13) to approve Tribal Resolution 00-17, confirming the nomination of **Leslie Lynn Taylor** to serve on the Gaming Operations Authority Board;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh;

voting no were: **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-19, approving the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for the work;

- approved unanimously (23-0) National Council Resolution 00-03, confirming the renomination of **Samuel S. Alexander** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

Alexander is a tribal citizen residing in Tulsa.

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCR 00-04, confirming the renomination of **Earl Kelly** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

Kelly is a tribal citizen residing in Tulsa.

- approved (17-6) NCR 00-06, confirming the nomination of **Samuel Ray Barnett** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Fife**, Okfuskee; **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Harjo**, Creek; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; and **Smith**, Okfuskee;

Barnett is a tribal citizen residing in Glenpool.

- approved unanimously (23-0) National Council Act 00-21, authorizing an appropriation in the amount of \$43,433 for improvements to the Claude A. Cox Omniplex in preparation for the annual Creek Nation Festival. Improvements include: a "Claude Cox Omniplex" sign; electrical work; bleacher covers; and welding and painting repairs;

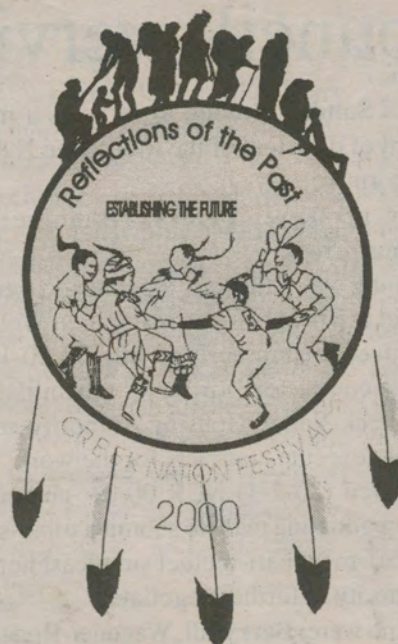
- approved unanimously (23-0) as amended NCA 00-28, amending NCA 97-07 (establishing a permanent grant program for churches and ceremonial grounds within the Muscogee Nation) as amended by NCA 98-19 and revising program guidelines. The amendments require that all funding requests from ceremonial grounds and churches be addressed through the permanent grant program. Requests that do not meet the program criteria will be subject to the discretion of the Council's Community Service Committee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-35, autho-

please see **COUNCIL...**, page 7

26th Annual Creek Nation Festival

Reflections of the Past Establishing the Future



Schedule of events

Thur., June 15 (pre-events)

What: Miss Mvskoke Nation and Little Miss Mvskoke Nation pageants

When: 6 p.m.

Where: Crosstown Penecostal Holiness Church, 1206 W. 5th St.

What: Alexander Posey Literary Festival awards

When: 6 p.m.

Where: Creek Council House Museum, 100 W. 6th St.

Fri., June 16

What: Youth olympics

When: 8 a.m.

Where: Claude A. Cox Omniplex Track, just west of U.S. Highway 75 and Fairgrounds Road

What: Viewer's choice quilt show

When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Library, located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex

What: Golf scramble

When: noon

Where: Lin Lar Golf Inc., 700 E. Smith Ferry Road in Muskogee

What: Men and women's softball tournaments

When: 6 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Blues Festival featuring: "Blues Nation;" "Black Hawk;" "Color Blind;" and "Mikko & The Sharks"

When: 6:30 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex stage

What: Gospel singing

When: 7 p.m.

Where: OSU Extension Center, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and Fairgrounds Road and drive around one and one-half miles west

What: All-Indian Rodeo

When: 8 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex Rodeo Arena

What: Oklahoma Professional Wrestlers' Association

When: 8 p.m.

Where: northeast area of the C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Stompdance

When: midnight

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex Track

Sat., June 17

What: 5k run

When: 7 a.m.

Where: Registration and the starting point is at the east side of the Independent Agencies (mound) Building located on the tribal capitol complex

What: 3-on-3 basketball tournaments

When: 8 a.m.

Where: northeast area of the C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Golf qualifying

When: 8 a.m.

Where: Lin Lar Golf Inc., 700 E. Smith Ferry Road in Muskogee

What: Men and women's softball tournaments continue

When: 8 a.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Tennis tournament

When: 8 a.m.

Where: City of Okmulgee Tennis Courts, 1100 block of north Okmulgee Street

What: Volleyball tournament

When: 8 a.m.

Where: northeast area of the C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Elders' activities to be held include: arts and crafts; dart games; duck pond; gift walk; health fair; horse shoe tournament; lunchtime cookout; and Maskoke clothing show

When: 9 a.m.

Where: Okmulgee Nutrition Center located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex

What: Rodeo slack

When: 9 a.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex Rodeo Arena

What: Sofke cook-off, contestants need only bring their pots

When: registration, 8 a.m.; cook-off, 9 a.m.

Where: area just northeast of the entrance

What: Viewer's choice quilt show continues

When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Library, located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex

What: Horse shoe tournament

When: registration, 9 a.m.; contest, 9:15 a.m.

Where: northeast area of the C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Fry bread contest, contestants need only bring their pots

When: registration, 10 a.m.; contest, 11:30 a.m.

Where: area just northeast of the entrance

What: Maskoke clothing show, individuals that have made traditional and contemporary Maskoke clothing that want to participate in the show may sign up prior to the show (the show will be held at 1 p.m. as part of elders' activities at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center located in the human development building on the tribal capitol complex also)

When: 3 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex stage

What: Indian car parade, first, second, and third prizes will be given to the best Indian cars that run

When: 4:30 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex

What: All-Indian Rodeo continues

When: 7 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex Rodeo Arena

What: Country and western concert featuring Doug Stone with opening act "Way Out West"

When: 8 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex stage

Sun., June 18

What: 3-on-3 basketball finals

When: 8 a.m.

Where: northeast area of the C.A.C. Omniplex

What: Golf shotgun start

When: 8 a.m.

Where: Lin Lar Golf Inc., 700 E. Smith Ferry Road in Muskogee

What: Men and women's softball finals

When: 8 a.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex

What: All-Indian Rodeo finals

When: 2 p.m.

Where: C.A.C. Omniplex Rodeo Arena

Children's activities and arts and crafts booths as well as concessions will be available throughout the week-end.

Daily gate fees are: free admission for youth ages 14 and under; \$4 for individuals ages 15 through 54; and \$3 for individuals ages 55 and over.

For more information, contact: (918) 756-8700; 1 (800) 482-1979; or www.ocevnnet.org/creek/festival.html

Programs-notices

Summer youth employment available

TULSA—The Native American Resource Center is accepting applications for jobs in a summer youth employment program that will begin in June.

The program will provide part-time employment—20 hours per week—to Native American youth ages 14 through 17. Full-time work for the summer months is available to qualifying Native Americans ages 18 through 21.

The program is open to young people who are enrolled members of Native American tribes or can demonstrate Native American heritage in other ways. Income guidelines also apply in determining eligibility. For more information, call (918) 592-1113.

Program holding health fair during festival

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Community Health Representatives are holding a health fair from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., June 16.

Health information will be available through a variety of booths. Health screenings will be offered for: blood sugar; blood pressure; cholesterol; and eye examinations. Foot massages will be offered also.

Refreshments will be available. For more information, call (918) 756-1941.

Museum announces competitive art show

MUSKOGEE—The Five Civilized Tribes Museum is accepting entries for its annual art competition.

The deadline for entries is June 26. Artists are limited to three entries; all entries must be available for sale. All paintings must be framed and no larger than 36 by 36 inches including the frame.

Entries must not be over two years old and must not have been previously shown at the museum. Entries must be authentic Five Tribes material to be considered for an award. Entrants must provide proof of descent from one of the Five Tribes.

For more information, call (918) 683-1701.

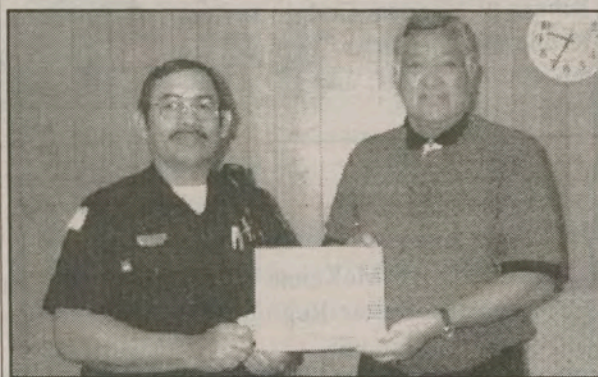
Seal of the Muscogee Nation receives patent

WASHINGTON—The Great Seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been issued a certificate of registration by the Commissioner of Patents and

Lighthouse staff gets kudos from chief and second chief

OKMULGEE—Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver presented plaques to tribal Lighthouse Administration staff for their contribution to an Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation homicide investigation.

The plaques, presented on behalf of the office of principal chief and second chief, were presented to Field Supervisor Eldon Kelough and Officer Washington Cummings for "outstanding service and dedication to law enforcement."



Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver acknowledged Lighthouse Administration Field Supervisor Eldon Kelough for locating the weapon used in a McIntosh County homicide last August.

photos by Stephanie Barnett

Chief Beaver recognized Officer Washington Cummings for assisting in locating and interviewing witnesses and delivering the search warrant in the OSBI investigation.

Trademarks.

The registration will be effective for 10 years, unless terminated earlier as provided by law, and is subject to the compliance of the Trademark Act of 1946, as amended.

The registration of the seal as a service mark provides for federal protection for the unauthorized use of the Nation's seal. Both Indians and non-Indians who illegally use the seal for commercial purposes are subject to federal prosecution.

Under tribal law, National Council Act 99-04, the commercial use of the seal by any Indian person or entity is unlawful without the consent of the Nation.

For more information, call the Muscogee Nation Department of Justice at (918) 756-8700, ext. 301.

Health department, association issue alert

OKLAHOMA CITY—The Oklahoma State Department of Health and the American Diabetes Association urge Oklahomans be conscientious of their risk for a disease that causes complications such as blindness, heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, and amputations.

Symptoms of diabetes include: extreme thirst; blurry vision; frequent urination; unusual tiredness; and unexplained weight loss.

For more information about diabetes, contact the American Diabetes Association at 1 (800) 342-2383.

Key Clubs donate books to tribal Head Start

JENKS—Area Key Clubs donated several thousand Golden Books to Muscogee Nation Head Start in December.

The project was instituted as part of a joint Key Club-Kiwanis effort to promote early childhood development. The books were collected by clubs throughout northeast Oklahoma.

"Not only will it be wonderful for our kids to have these books to take home as their own, it will support our larger literacy goals. Several thousand books will go a long way for our 229 preschoolers," Barbara O'Neal, Muscogee Nation Head Start Education Specialist, said.

Key Club Lt. Govs. Grace Kim, Kristen Taylor, and Lannie Su spearheaded the program with their districts' clubs. "The goal was 10,000 books by the end of the year," Kim said. "We had that many by the end of the first month"



submitted photo

Jenks Key Club President Jeremy Wood and Lt. Gov. Grace Kim, read with Jenks-Glenpool Head Start students Dustin Melton, Dallas White, and Chelsea Dennison.

Muscogee Nation opens Tulsa child development center

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care's Tulsa Child Development Center opened in May with the capability to provide child care for up to 64 children.

The project was constructed at an approximate cost of \$818,000 and is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care and Development Fund.

The center is licensed for children ages six months to 12 years. The design allows for age appropriate care in the three-pod facility. Each pod contains two classrooms with equipment and playground areas. The facility contains an indoor playground as well.

Office of Child Care Manager Janet Wise said the center will network with area agencies to provide "a complete and culturally diverse spectrum of child care...."

The facility is located on tribal property just north of Tulsa Indian Community Center at 8611 S. Union.

For more information, contact Gena Ballard, child development center supervisor, at (918) 758-1463.



submitted photo

Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care's Tulsa Child Development Center

Health center employees give away baskets

OKMULGEE—The Okmulgee Indian Health Center Employee Activity Committee gave away Easter baskets as part of a fund-raising activity.

Easter basket winners were: Eugenia Gaches; Donna Kaler; Pam Powell; Georgia Proctor; and Devin Reyes.



Gaches Kaler



Powell Proctor

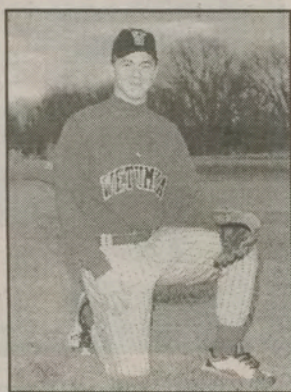
Education

Wetumka boy awarded all-district player

WETUMKA — Wetumka High School sophomore Tommy "T.J." Carter was awarded all-district player in baseball.

He is a pitcher for the Wetumka Chieftains in district 8A.

He is the son of Steve and Nancy Hulstine of Wetumka and the grandson of Bunny and Flora Lewis of Dustin.



Carter

Mahaya OnTheHill

TWIN HILLS—Mahaya OnTheHill was named co-valedictorian of the Twin Hills eighth grade class.

She has maintained a 4.0 grade point average.

During her eighth grade year, OnTheHill was a member of the: academic team; gifted and talented program; and the eighth grade basketball team. She belongs to Concharty United Methodist Church.

She will be attending Preston High School; after graduating from high school she plans to attend The University of Oklahoma and become a paralegal.

She is the daughter of Levi and Debbie OnTheHill. Her grandmother is Esther Bruner.



OnTheHill

Citizen receives medical degree from Ross

NEW YORK—James O. Wilde Jr. graduated from Ross University School of Medicine on Feb. 25 at Carnegie Hall.

He graduated from McLain High School, Tulsa, and attended The University of Oklahoma for three semesters before enlisting in the Navy as a hospital corpsman. He credits the Navy as having offered him "invaluable" training and career building in medicine. Following an honorable discharge in 1980, Wilde worked at Doctors Family Clinic operating the lab and x-ray for 11 years. He was laboratory supervisor at Tulsa Regional Medical Center for two years.

Wilde holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from The University of Tulsa.

In June he will begin a residency in family practice at the University of Tennessee in Memphis.

Before pursuing his doctor of medicine degree, Wilde was an active member of Glenpool Creek Indian Community, having served on its board. He also served as a city council member, then later mayor, to the City of Glenpool.

He is of Muscogee-Pawnee descent. Wilde said his future plans include "working within my native community." He is the son of Owen Howard and Kathryn N. Bible Jones of Glenpool and the late James Wilde. His maternal grandparents are the late Lena Bemo and Dave Bible.

Okmulgee couple celebrates wedding anniversary

OKMULGEE—Willie and Mary Gooden celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on March 7.

Their children recognized their anniversary by presenting them a cake at the Okmulgee Nutrition Center.

The Okmulgee couple belong to Big Cussetah Methodist Church and the Myskoke Senior Citizens group.

Together, they have five children: Bennie Gooden of Dewar; Angela Kihega of Norman; George Taylor of Kennesaw, Ga; Robert Taylor of Corpus Christi, Texas; and J.D. Colbert of Norman.



The Goodens

Arrivals

McKenna Earls

McALESTER—McKenna Rhyen Earls was born April 8 at McAlester Regional Health Center to Brandy Earls of Eufaula.

She weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 and three-fourths inches in length.

Her grandparents are Brenda and the late Tim Earls of Eufaula.

Her grandparents are Lizzie and the late Andrew Hawkins of Stidham.

Her aunt is Fonda Earls of Eufaula.



Earls

Mehenwa Williams

OKMULGEE—Mehenwa Fotenetka Williams was born Dec. 28 to Shawn Williams and Nichole Green of Wilson community.

She weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces and was 19 and one-half inches in length.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town.

Her paternal grandparents are Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson Community.

Her maternal grandmother is Tilda Green of Valley Center, Calif.

She is the great-granddaughter of Thomas Berryhill Sr. of Wilson Community.

She has one sister, Alaysia, who is age two.



Williams

Birthdays

Alaysia Williams

HENRYETTA—Alaysia Opvny Williams celebrated her second birthday Oct. 29 with a Winnie the Pooh party theme.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town.

Those attending were her: parents, Shawn Williams

and Nichole Green of Wilson community; grandparents, Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson community; great-grandfather, Thomas Berryhill Sr. of Wilson Community; great-uncle and aunt, Mike and Julia Berryhill of Henryetta and many cousins and friends.

Her maternal grandmother is Tilda Green of Valley. She is the niece of Charley and Megan Green, both of Valley Center, Calif.



Williams

Reunions

Baker-Brooks

EUFAULA — The descendants of Sam Baker, Fannie Brooks, and Blanch Freeman Baker are holding a family reunion June 10 and 11 at Fountainhead Lodge resort.

Anyone who would like to tell stories or listen to stories about Lumhe Chate or his descendants or the Bakers and Brooks are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Dan Owens by e-mail at danny@midusa.net.

Bruner

LAMAR — The Bruner Family Reunion will be held June 30 and July 31 at Middle Creek No. 1 Baptist Church.

It will begin at 6 p.m., June 30 with a wiener roast and at 10 a.m., July 1.

Those that are attending are requested to bring a covered dish as well as item for the garage sale.

For more information, call Fred Bruner at (405) 379-2355.

Religion

Bird Creek pastor to be ordained

SASAKWA—Jess Factor will be ordained as minister and pastor of Bird Creek Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m., June 24.

Bill Hobia will be performing the ordination.

The church is located three miles west of Sasakwa on state highway 56 and one half of a mile south.

Council

continued from page 3

rizing the expenditure of monies—\$4,290—from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-governance compact for the repair of a leaking dam on an eight-acre pond located on tribal trust property near Dustin;

- approved (22-1) NCA 00-36, approving and authorizing the principal chief to execute a lease agreement between Heartland Ventures II L.L.C. and the Muscogee Nation. The act approves a lease agreement amendment to the two parties current agreement which leases restaurant facilities in the Creek Nation Travel Plaza. The amendment will benefit the Nation by allowing it to utilize additional space within the travel plaza;

voting no was **S. Pickering**, Creek;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-38, appropriating funds in the amount of \$6,000 to the tax commission office for the purchase of a phone system;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-39, authorizing the modification of the fiscal year 2000 Pfizer Diabetes Education Grant Budget and approving the expenditure of grant funds. The act granted the tribal health administration authorization to expend a \$2,500 grant for its professional education management of Type 2 diabetes program and a \$1,000 grant for its diabetes education program;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-40, authorizing the modification of the vision program budget and the expenditure of increase of funds. The act approves the addition of \$1,627 in grant monies to the fiscal year 2000 Community Services Block Grant, vision program;

- approved unanimously (23-0) to return to committee NCA 00-41, a budget modification in excess of 10 percent for the FY 99 division of health administration special diabetes program for Indians;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-42, providing for the carry over of certain unexpended funds pursuant to NCA 99-58 (an ordinance of the Muscogee Nation appropriating funds for certain administrative and operational costs of the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Board);

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-43, amending NCA 99-176 (an ordinance of the Muscogee Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation and expenditure of additional funds for the Muscogee Veterans Memorial Monument). The amendment appropriates \$2,000 annually for the replacement of monument flags as necessary;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-44, authorizing the expenditure of additional Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds received by social services. The act authorizes social services to expend additional LIHEAP monies—\$6,128—provided for through presidential mandate because of increased home heating oil and propane prices;

- approved (22-1) NCA 00-46, repealing NCA 99-158 and further amending NCA 99-02 to provide for a new date to commence collections under the sales tax code. National Council Act 99-02 enacted a sales tax code in which collections were to begin Oct. 1, 1999. National Council Act 99-158 amended 99-02 to begin collections on April 1, 2000. National Council Act 00-46 repeals 99-158 and further amends NCA 99-02 to allow collections to commence on Oct. 1, 2000.

voting no was **Peters**, Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-47, authorizing a budget modification of the Head Start program. The act allows for funds programmed for the new Eufaula Head Start program to be placed in other Head Start program line items;

- approved unanimously (22-0-1) NCA 00-48, appropriating and authorizing the expenditures of \$30,000 in self-governance funds for general environmental clean up on tribal property;

abstaining was **Gillespie**; Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-49, repealing NCA 99-17 and further amending NCA 95-81 (establishment of a motor vehicle code and establishing a special fee for veterans). National Council Act 99-17 amended NCA 95-81 to provide for a reduction of fees for disabled veterans, recipients of selected medals, and prisoners of war, although it did not include other veterans. It also provided for \$3,000 to purchase special veterans tags, although because tax were not ordered, the allocation was returned to the funding source. National Council Act 00-49 repeals NCA 99-17 and further amends NCA 95-81 to establish a special fee schedule for Muscogee Nation tribal citizens who are veterans and provides for an appropriation to purchase the special veterans tags.

The fee schedule is: veterans, \$15; disabled veterans, \$11.50; recipients of selected medals for heroism in combat, \$5; and prisoners of war, no charge;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-50, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement for the purchase of a manufactured office building for Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo. The appropriation for the purchase of the building was \$40,900;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-51, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement for exterior building painting for Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo. The contract, with Williams Painting, is for \$11,177;

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-52, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement for exterior signage for Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo. The cost of the exterior building sign, to be purchased from Acura Neon, Inc., is \$48,840; and

- approved unanimously (23-0) NCA 00-55, repealing TR 96-04 (a resolution of the Muscogee Nation declaring the third Sunday in April as a day of prayer for protecting our children) and declaring a "day of prayer" in April each year.

April 29 quarterly session

Absent were: **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh;

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- approved (11-9) Tribal Resolution 00-16, confirming the nomination of **William E. Freeman** as executive director of the Muscogee Nation;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; and **Mary Sue**

Peak, Tulsa;

voting no were: **Barbara Gillespie**; Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee;

Freeman is a tribal citizen residing in Tahlequah.

- approved (18-0-2) as amended TR 00-20, confirming the nomination of **Marshall Hardin** to serve on the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. The resolution was amended to insert "board of commissioners" in the title;

abstaining were: **Gillespie**; Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **King**, Tulsa;

Hardin is a tribal citizen residing in Okmulgee.

- approved unanimously (20-0) TR 00-21, the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for the work;

- approved unanimously (23-0) TR 00-22, confirming the nomination of **George Scott** to serve on the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board of Commissioners;

Scott is a tribal citizen residing in Holdenville.

- approved unanimously (20-0) National Council Act 00-56, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for Concharty United Methodist Church for the annual camp meeting of the senior Methodists organization of the northeast district of the United Methodist Church;

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-59, amending NCA 98-04 (an ordinance amending and adding new provision to NCA 89-84, setting forth the authority and powers of the gaming operations authority board);

- approved (19-0-1) to return to committee NCA 00-61, approving Native American Housing And Self Determination Act activities to be included in the fiscal year 2000 Indian housing plan;

abstaining was **Peters**, Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-63, authorizing the donation of funds to the Okmulgee Family Resource Center;

- approved unanimously (20-0) as amended NCA 00-64, appropriating funds to the Haskell Indian Nations University alumni. The act was amended to change the appropriation amount from \$500 to \$1,000;

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-65, appropriating funds, pursuant to NCA 99-58, for the purpose of removing two vacant and abandoned buildings that are hazardous and present a threat to public safety;

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-66, authorizing a budget modification for the department of grant compliance;

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-67, authorizing the principal chief to execute a lease agreement with the U.S. Indian Health Service;

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-68, authorizing the principal chief to execute a USA Track and Field Application for sanction of the Creek Nation Festival 5K Run; and

- approved unanimously (20-0) NCA 00-70; authorizing a special appropriation to John Tilley for expenses related to his fifth grade social studies class trip to Washington D.C. in June.

Board seeks address changes

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Election Board is seeking address changes for registered voters whose addresses are not deliverable.

Voters whose names have been published below are requested to submit their current addresses to the election board.

Current addresses may be submitted by writing: Muscogee Nation Election

Board, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447; or calling, (918) 756-8700, or 1 (800) 482-1979, exts. 294, 349, or 350.

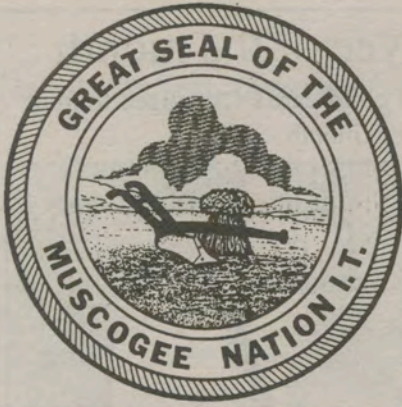
Editor's note: The following names are not a complete listing of voters with undeliverable addresses. Portions of the list will be published in upcoming issues of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

ACHESON, MARILYN RUTH
ADAMS, WILLIE STEVEN III
ADOLPH, GREGORY LYSLE
ADOLPH, JEFFERY EUGENE
AGENT, SAMANTHA
ALLEN, CARL RAY
ALLEN, KENNETH EUGENE
ANAMA, FLORETA CLARK
ANDERSON, ROBERT CLARENCE
ANDERSON, ROBIN LEE
ANGLEN, EDWARD JR.
ANGLEN, PAUL GENE
ANSIEL, BILLY JOE
ANSPAW, CARRIE WILLIS
APPLEGATE, PAMELA GENE
AQUINO, RICARDO MAGPAYO JR.
ARANAYDO, LINDA SUSAN
ARCHER, JERRY DALE
ARCHER, RANDALL MARK
ARNETT, TENIA ELAINE
ARPOIKA, BOBBY ISLO
ARZOLA, SHERRI LYNN
ASBURY, MARIE JANIS
ASHMORE, YVETTE MAXINE
ATKINS-CLERC, ANBRA DIANNE
AUDD, RICHARD MARTIN
BAILEY, BETTY LOU
BALES, JERRY ALVIN
BANKS, CAROL ELAINE
BARBER, KELLY KAY
BARLOW, CHALRES ARNOLD JR.
BARNETT, CHARLES BARNEY JR.
BARNETT, DAVID RONALD
BARNETT, JACKSON LEE JR.
BARNETT, RONALD RAY
BARNETT, SANDRA CAROLE
BARTON, BRENDA CAROL
BAUGHMAN, ORVILLE KENNETH JR.
BAUGHN, JUANITA JANETT
BAXTER, MELINDA VAUGHN
BEAR, DALE LUCUS
BEAR, JAMISON OLIVER
BEAR, LITTLE ROCK
BEARTUSK, PAMELA
BEAVER, EDGAR ERVIN
BELLAMY, ROBERT JOSEPH
BENEDICT, JESSICA ELLEN
BENNETT, DANDRA KAYE
BERRINGER, LUANNA SU
BERRY, DAVID WALKER
BERRYHILL, AARON DALE
BERRYHILL, ADRIAN LEE
BERRYHILL, BRETT WAYNE
BERRYHILL, DONALD LEE
BERRYHILL, RICHARD ARLEN
BERRYHILL, RONALD LEE
BERRYHILL, SHIRLEY ANN
BERRYHILL, WALTER SAMMIE
BEST, JAMES ERNEST
BEST, JOHN HOGAN
BEST, MARTHA DIANE
BIAS, DEBRA LYNN
BIGLER, MICHAEL DAVID Y.
BILLHIMER, CAROLYN
BILLIE, REMONA LYNN
BIRDCREEK, IRA MATT
BLAND, DAVIS MARKHAMA

BLANKENSHIP, DEMPSEY WALKER
BLANKENSHIP, DONALD DWIGHT
BLANKENSHIP, RICKY WAYNE
BODWELL, TERESA GAYLE
BOOTH, LARRY JOE
BRADSHAW, VALERIE ANN
BRASUELL, WALLACE WADE
BRATCHER, GEORGIALENE
BRDEN, SHERRY ANNETTE
BREWINGTON, PATRICIA ANN
BREWSTER, LARRY WAYNE
BRIDGES, JORDAN WADE
BROOKS, REBECCA
BROWN, BLANCHARD WELTON
BROWN, CAROLYN JUNE
BROWN, PENNIE DAYLENE
BROWN, SHERRI LOU
BROWN, UNA MICHELLE
BROYLES, EVENLYN LOUISE
BRUCE, DEBORAH RUTH
BRUNER, RANDAL LOUIS
BUCHHOLZ, DEBROAH ANITA
BUCKLEY, HARRY LINNELL
BUCKTROT, ALVIN LEE JR.
BUCKTROT, ANITA CAROL
BUIE, RUTH ANN
BURGESS, RAYMOND LEE
BURLEY, LISA CAROL
BURNS, GEORGE ALVIN JR.
BURRIS, CURTIS WILLIAM
BURRIS, DENNIS HUGH
BURTON, NATHANIEL MCDUFF JR.
BYRD, BELINDA IALENE
BYRD, GNETTA FRANCES
CALDWELL, JERRA GAY
CAMP, BONITA JANE
CAMPBELL, CLAY IAN
CANARD, PATRICIA ELLEN
CANARD, ROGER VERNON
CARDEN, NONTÉ DEER
CARMAN, LARRY DAN
CARMAN, LONNIE CHESTER SR.
CARPENTER, JEANIE ANN
CARPENTER, ROBERT DANIEL
CARR, KENAYLE DEE
CARSON, DANA WESLEY
CARTER, ELEANOR
CARTER, MABLE IMOGENE
CASE, ANTHONY WILLIAM
CASE, MAURICE WAYNE
CASEY, PAT ROCKNE
CASEY, PATRICIA ANN
CASTLE, BETTY ADELLA
CAZABAT, ELIZABETH JANE
CHALAKEE, THERON LAYNE
CHECOTAH, ORVILON
CHEEK, JERRY KEITH
CHILDERS, DANIEL CHRISTOPHER
CHILDERS, WESLEY ROBERT
CHILDRESS, LUCY MAE
CHRISTY, LINDA MARIE
CLARK, PENNY JOANNE
CLARK, SHERIL ANN
CLARY, RUTH ELLEN
CLEARY, RIGINA
COBB, YOVON LINELL
COCHRAN, BRENDA KAY

CODY, JENNY LEE
COKER, NADINE
COLE, THERESA LIEGH
COMBS, ROBERT KIMBAL
CONDREAY, MAUDE EMMA LEE
CONDULLE, CHARLES ARTHUR
CONRAD, MILLICENT WAHKOLA
CONTTRELLE, CINDY LEA
COOK, SUSAN CAROLE
COOPER, LYNDEL LIN
COUCH, JACK CODY
COURSEY, DORLESS JANE
COURSEY, RICHARD JOHN
COWAN, ALICE M.
COWLES, AGNES LORENE
COWLES, JIMMY WAYNE
COX, LAURA SUE
COYLE, JAMIE JO
CRAWFORD, SCOTTY SHANE
CRINER, CARRI LYNN
CROOK, DANETTA ANN
CRUSE, CARRIE ELIZABETH
CULLY, ANNA LEE
DANNATTE, ANDREA MARIE
DAVIDSON, ONEAWA KAY
DAVIS, BILLY
DAVIS, ESTLEN
DAVIS, JOHN DAYTON
DAVIS, MARTHA KATHRYN
DEAN, RICHARD VERNON
DEERINWATER, GEORGE EMMITT
DEO, STEVEN THOMAS
DEROIN, DEBRA CAROL
DIEHL, DANIEL SCOTT
DOBSON, MIKEL LEE
DORMAN, RACHAEL MONICE
DORSEY, GARY NEILL
DORSEY, NORMAN SUE
DOWLER, MARY LOUISE
DOYLE, DANIEL
DOYLE, GEFREY
DOYLE, MICHAEL
DRAPEAU, IMOGENE
DREW, EARL E.
DRISCOLL, ROSIE LEE
DUBOSE, ICY REE
DUNCAN, DONALD GENE
DUNN, DONNA JO
DUNNING, BETTY LOU
DUNSON, DAVID WANYE
DUNSON, MARTY CRAIG
DUROSSETTE, GARY RICHARD
EAKES, VINCENT RAY
EARNEST, TAMMY DEE
EDMINSTEN, MAURICE
EDMUNDSON, MAIMIE
EDWARDS, ELIZABETH PEARL
EDWARDS, RICHARD WAYNE JR.
ELDRIDGE, SHERRY ELAINE
EMERY, BRYON
EMRICH, DEBORAH LYNN
ENGLISH, TERRY DEAN
EPPERLEY, GARY CHARLES
EPPERLEY, LINDA ANN
ETCHISON, DOLLIE ANN
EUBANKS, SAMMY LEE
FALCONER, BARBARA ANN
FEATHERSTON, LEE
FIELDS, JAMES ALLEN
FIELDS, MATTIE MAYE
FIELDS, SAMUEL ANTHONY
FISH, LOUIS MELFORD JR.
FISH, RAMONA LYNNELLE
FIXICO, ANTONIA
FLETCHER, DONALD WILLIAM
FLOCH, JANISE ROBERTA
FOBB, RUTH MARIE
FOREMAN, KONYA SUE
FORESTER, ROBERT SCOTT
FOSTER, BILLIE JEAN
FOSTER, DAVID RAY
FOSTER, DEANNE MARIE
FRAILEY, MARCUS GENE

FREAM, KIM KIMBROW
FREAM, WENDY LA'NELL
FREEMAN, JACK HOUSTON
FREEMAN, JACK LANDRUM II
FREEMAN, LEOLA
FRENCH, ALIX GERALD
FRENCH, GARA LYNN
FULWIDER, DAVID VAN
GABLE, JAMES CURTIS JR.
GABLE, MATTIE LOUISE
GAMBLE, ROBERT LEE
GARRETT, EEULA VELMA
GASKINS, ELIZABETH WYVONNE
GASTON, OLIVER DON
GEE, CARMEN DAY
GEORGE, ROY REED
GILLISPIE, BARBARA JEAN
GIVENS, CHARLES JR.
GOLDEN, BRENDA SUE
GORDON, JOHN HAROLD
GOSSETT, CAROLYN JANE
GOUDEAU, JURLDEN
GOUGE, HELEN LOUISE
GRAHAM, BARBARA WAUHILLAU
GRAHAM, KIMBERLY SUE
GRAYSON, DORIS ANN
GRAYSON, SANDRA LYNN
GREEN, LISA SUZANNE
GREENLEE, WILLIAM EUGENE
GREENWAY, RETHA L.
GREENWOOD, HEATHER KATHERINE
GREENWOOD, JOANN IRENE
GREENWOOD, JOHN MICHAEL
GREENWOOD, ROBERT LEWIS
GREGORY, FLETCHER RAYMOND
GRIFFITH, TONY DEE
GRUNDY, PAMEILA RENEE
GUTIERREZ, MARCELLA LOUISE
HACKSON, BETTY SUE
HAERROD, LANNY CHRIS
HAIKEY, CINDY LOU
HAIKEY, JOHN PHILLIP
HALE, DAVID ROBERT
HALEY, GEORGE ELMER
HALL, CAROL ANN
HALLUM, DAVID LEE
HAMBLET, RUBY ELSIE
HAMILTON, KATHY SUE
HARJO, ALBERT LEE
HARJO, BARNEY DALE
HARJO, DOUGLAS
HARJO, GENE
HARJO, GERALD
HARJO, JOE
HARJO, JOSEPH LEON
HARJO, LAWRENCE DEAN
HARJO, MATILDA MAXINE
HARJO, RICHARD
HARJO, ROY DEAN
HARJO, WILSON SCOTT
HARLEY, BILLY RAY
HARPER, WANDA SUE
HARRISON, CONNIE MAE
HARRISON, PATRICK PLEASANT
HART, GREGORY EARL
HARVEY, ALLEN RAY
HARWELL, GILBERT PAIGE
HEATER, PEGGY LYNN
HEINBACH, SUSAN
HENDERSON, WILLIAM VIRGIL
HENRY, STEPHEN GREGORY
HERNANDEZ, LIZA JANE
HERRON, MICHAEL WESLEY
HICKS, GARY DEAN
HICKS, MICHAEL KEITH
HICKS, NORMAN WAYNE JR.
HIGHTOWER, MARYLOU
HILL JOANN
HILL, ANNETTA JEAN
HILL, BRYANT LEE
HILL, STEWART
HOBIA, KELLY SUE
HODGE, FLOYD WAYNE



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June 2000, 8 pages

Tribal delegation travels to capital in support of Oklahoma Indian Issues

by Kathryn Bell

WASHINGTON—Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, Second Chief Chief A.D. Ellis, and Acting Attorney General Jessie Durham joined the leadership of other Oklahoma tribes recently to attend a Senate Committee on Indian Affairs special briefing on issues that affect Oklahoma Indians.

The issues included: level of need funded in the Indian Health Service Oklahoma area; fractionated ownership of Indian land in Oklahoma (1947 Act); Impact Aid in Oklahoma and the Arkansas Riverbed.

While in Washington, Muscogee and Cherokee nations' leadership also attended a Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Committee Hearing on the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act as well as met with the Oklahoma Congressional delegation.

On the importance of a tribal presence in Washington D.C., Chief Beaver said, "at a time when the sovereignty of all Indian nations are under attack at the highest level of our nation's government, we need to be visible and vocal in Washington—standing our ground when it comes to the rights of tribal governments to be self-determining. For example, in the case of adequate health care alone, Oklahoma has more than one-fifth of the country's Indian population and, yet, incredibly, we are the lowest funded per capita in Indian health care...this is what we are trying to turn around for Oklahoma—to get this disparity in Indian Health Service funding corrected."

Chief Beaver reaffirmed the statements made by Dr. Charles Grim, director of the Oklahoma City Area IHS, in his testimony before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs when he pointed out the disparity in IHS funding—the Oklahoma City Area IHS receives \$1,870 per person.

"The answer is not to take away from other tribes and give to those which receive lower IHS funding, but for Congress to give us all adequate funding for health care; Congress needs to uphold the treaties they made with us and to support our sovereignty instead of fighting it."

National Historic Site holding grand reopening

FORT SMITH, Ark.—The Fort Smith National Historic Site is holding a grand reopening of its historic barracks/courthouse/jail building at 11 a.m., June 24.

The historic building and park grounds have been undergoing a major \$7.5 million rehabilitation project for the past three years. The ceremony will include brief presentation by Congressional leaders, National Park Service personnel, and area dignitaries.

The opening ceremony will be preceded by the dedication of a new overlook and educational panels along the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The dedication will take place at 9 a.m. on the Arkansas River, below Belle Point. The panels were written and designed with the assistance of the Cherokee, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), Chickasaw, and Seminole tribes. The exhibits were funded by a grant from the National Park Foundation.

Fort Smith National Historic Site, located in downtown Fort Smith, embraces the remains of two front

tier forts and the nineteenth-century Federal Court for the Western District of Arkansas. The site commemorates a significant phase of America's west-



Circa 1870s-1880s photograph of Indian prisoners on the courthouse steps

ward expansion and stands today as a reminder of 80 turbulent years in the history of federal Indian
please see **FORT SMITH...**, page 3

Right: Pictured on "the Hill" are Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, Acting Attorney General Jessie Durham, and Second Chief Chief A.D. Ellis.



Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith, Chief Beaver, Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby, and Second Chief Ellis



Right: Chief Beaver presents tribal citizen and National Indian Gaming Commission Chair Montie Deer with a tie adorned with the Great Seal of the Muscogee Nation.

Programs-notices

Wewoka Methodist church gospel singing
YEAGER—Wewoka United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., June 24.

The master of ceremonies will be Jesse Scott.

Concessions will be available.

From state highway 48 and U.S. Highway 270, drive three miles east and seven miles north on Yeager Road.

Volleyball tournament scheduled for July

OKMULGEE—A coed volleyball tournament is being held at 9 a.m., July 15 at the Claude A. Cox Omnplex.

The tournament will have an eight-man roster. The deadline for the \$40 entry fee is July 13. First and second place winners will receive T-shirts.

Concessions will be available.

For more information, contact Ryan or J.B. Smith at (405) 382-3546.

Farm facility program available for farmers

STILLWATER—Under the United States Department of Agriculture's new farm storage facility loan program farmers may obtain low-cost loans to help build or upgrade commodity storage and handling facilities.

"For Oklahoma farmers to get the best price for their crops, they need marketing flexibility" Terry L. Peach, Farm Service Agency Executive Director, said. "On-farm storage will provide farmers the control they need for segregating their crops and deciding when to sell them."

Second Chief keeping citizens abreast of tribal operations

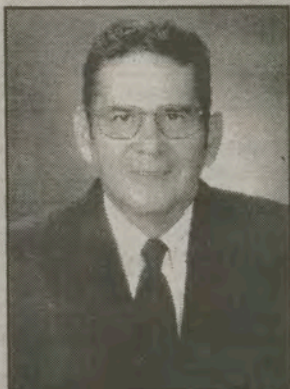
I believe many of you are interested and concerned about our tribal government and its operations. As your second chief, I plan to keep you informed about our progress and how my time is used to support tribal citizens.

This is the first of a monthly column I intend to submit from the office of the second chief in order to inform citizens of tribal progress.

First and foremost, me and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver have a very good working relationship—and mutual trust and respect. This relationship was initially developed during our terms as representatives to the National Council when we both served on its business and government committee.

Our most important projects that lay ahead are health care and economic development. Everyone realizes that successful and smart economic development will produce the needed revenue to pay for better health care and educational services for our tribal members and other Indian peoples.

Since January, Chief Beaver has sent me to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcing Conference to help secure more funding for our tribal police. In February, I attended the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act Conference for more



funding for housing. In March, I attended Social Security meetings offering suggestions on how it can improve its programs. In May, the principal chief, me, and staff attended several meetings in Washington D.C. to lobby for more health care funding, better land control issues, and other issues such as impact aid for schools.

On the local level, I have visited elderly nutrition programs such as: Eufaula; Holdenville; Bristow; Okmulgee; Dewar; and Okemah. Having offered health screenings to around 200 people, the tribal community health representatives' health fair at Eufaula was very successful. I also attended several ceremonial grounds to make contact with our Muscogee and Euchee people.

Last month the tribe purchased 42 acres just north of the complex; currently, plans for developing the property are in the works. The construction of the Muskogee Travel Plaza should begin later this summer. It will be located on tribal property adjacent to Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo. Long-range economic development planning is also underway to develop the 70-plus acres of tribal property located along Riverside Drive in Tulsa. This property has much potential for the Nation because of Riverside Drive's 35,000 traffic count per day and its proximity to south Tulsa.

Best wishes and good health to everyone.

Mvto,

Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Provider trainer selected as April employee of the month

OKMULGEE — Cindy Russell, a provider trainer for the office of child care's Okmulgee training center, was selected as Muscogee (Creek) Nation's April employee of the month.

Russell's duties consist of providing health and safety and child development training to child care providers. "My job is to help make the environment safer and healthy for children in child care at home and the community." She said the most rewarding aspect of her job is working for children. She has been employed with Muscogee (Creek) Nation for four years.

She has an associate's degree of art from Bacone College and an associate's degree in applied science from Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

Russell enjoys painting, sewing, crafts, and cooking.

She and her 10 year old son, Forrest, reside in Hitchita.



Russell receives a certificate from Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver

The program will provide seven-year financing for on-farm storage of: wheat; rice; soybeans; sunflower seed; canola; rapeseed; safflower; flaxseed; mustard seed; crambe; corn; grain; sorghum; oats; and barley. The interest rate will be the same rate charged on comparable treasury securities in effect during the month the loan is approved and will remain in effect for the term of the loan.

For more information, contact (405) 742-1156 to get local FSA office phone numbers.

Citizen opens autoglass business in Tulsa

TULSA—Tribal citizen Steven Crows has opened S & J Auto Glass at 7739-J E. 38th St.

It offers free mobile service and can complete the

following types of glass jobs: auto glass; commercial; heavy equipment; plate glass; and custom glass cutting.

To contact S & J Auto Glass, call: (918) 660-0340 or (918) 660-0746.

Peach Ground holds Green Corn ceremony

HANNA—Peach Ground held its Green Corn Ceremony on June 9 and 10.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the May regular session held May 20.

Absent were: **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; and **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District.

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (22-0) Tribal Resolution 00-24, reconfirming **Jon Tiger** to the Muscogee Nation Citizenship Board;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee.

Tiger is a tribal citizen residing in **Eufaula**.

- approved unanimously (22-0) TR 00-25, approving the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for the work;

- approved unanimously (22-0) National Council Act 00-37, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for the Muscogee Nation Roads Program to purchase a Case bulldozer for \$74,500;

- approved (12-10) to table for clarification in committee NCA 00-58 (as amended), to provide for the duties of the leadership of the National Council, to adjust the salary of the leadership and Council members and to amend NCA 92-163 (Muscogee National Council Compensation Act) and NCA 99-114 (Comprehensive Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2000). National Council Act 00-58 amended Sec. 105.k to exclude the Speaker from appointing committee

chairs. The amendment also rules out increases in compensation to the Second Speaker and Council representatives. The act provides for fixed compensation for the Speaker at \$45,000 per year;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Buck**, Tukvptce; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Harjo**, Creek; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **T. Pickering**, McIntosh; and **Smith**, Okfuskee;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-71, authorizing the department of environmental services to administer and manage the Nation's general assistance program grant. The tribal attorney general's office applied for the GAP Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the purpose of assisting the Nation in creating an environmental protection program for the Nation. It has been managing and administering the 1998 and 99 GAP Grants which total \$175,000. After the grants were awarded, a department of environmental services was established. The act transfers the management and administration of the GAP grants to the department of environmental services;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-72, authorizing the department of environmental services to administer and manage the Nation's FY 1999 water quality monitoring program grant. The tribal attorney general's office applied for the U.S. EPA grant totaling \$30,000 for the purpose of allowing the Nation to plan, establish, and implement a watershed monitoring program for surface waters located within the Nations boundaries and to assist the Nation in developing a quality water program. The act transfers the administration and management of the grant from the office of the attorney general to environmental services;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-73, authorizing the department of environmental services to do a budget modification. National Council approval is needed for budget modification exceeding 10 percent of its \$239,000 budget;

- approved unanimously (18-4) as amended NCA 00-74, authorizing a special appropriation for the Okmulgee Phillies 14 and under fast pitch softball team. A special appropriation was made in the amount

of \$5,000. The appropriation was made to offset the transportation, food, lodging, fees, and other expenses related to their participation at the National Softball Association World Series in Fort Myers, Fla.;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; and **S. Pickering**, Creek; and **T. Pickering**, McIntosh;

- approved unanimously (22-0) as amended NCA 00-75, appropriating funds—\$1,500—to Tahlavse Ceremonial Ground (Cromwell) for its Green Corn Ceremony. The act provides for supplemental monetary assistance to campers for the purchase of food to be consumed during Green Corn. The amendment prevents the appropriation from begin included in the annual comprehensive budget and specifies that **Thomas Yahola** be designated to receive the check;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-76, authorizing a special appropriation to Eufaula Indian Community for expenses related to its bingo expansion project. The act appropriated \$1,452 for expenses related to the total cost of \$34,905;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-78, authorizing an appropriation to implement the drug testing program pursuant to NCA 93-107 and to direct the personnel services department of the executive branch to begin implementation of the drug testing program; **Lewis**, Okmulgee, did not vote.

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-80, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds—\$27,244—for an upgrade of equipment/software for the legislative branch to have distribution capabilities of enacted legislation; and

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-82, appropriating funds—\$2,500—to Kialegee Tribal Town for expenses related to its annual celebration to be held June 24.

In items for consideration the Council:

- approved (19-3) NCA 00-83, authorizing and appropriating funds for the Team FYB Ballers to participate in the Mid American Youth Basketball League and national tournaments. A special appropriation was made in the amount of \$4,500;

voting no were: **Harjo**, Creek; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; and **S. Pickering**, Creek.

In other business the Council:

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCR 00-07, adopting the rules of procedures of the National Council.

Fort Smith

continued from page 1
policy.

The park's building has served many purposes. The federal court moved into the former army barracks in 1872, using it as a courthouse and primitive jail. In 1887 a new jail was constructed adjacent to the courthouse. With the recent rehabilitation project the historic barracks/courthouse/jail building has been converted into an expanded visitor center.

The new exhibits focus on Fort Smith's military history from 1817-1871, Judge Isaac C. Parker and the federal court's impact on Indian Territory, U.S. Deputy Marshals and outlaws, Federal Indian policy, and Indian Removal including the Trail of Tears. The expanded facility will allow the park to display more of its artifact and photography collection. In addition, several new artifact acquisitions have been made and generous loans and donations have been received

from individuals and institutions. "Hanging Judge" Parker's courtroom has been restored with reproduction 1880s court furnishings. The original "Hell on the Border" jail, located beneath the courthouse and used from 1871-1889, has been restored. In the main exhibit area, a partial, full-sized replica of the 1890s jail interior has been built using the original historic blueprints.

Several audio/visual programs are featured in the new visitor center. The park's existing orientation film will be shown in the new theatre. Two video stations will provide opportunities for visitors to hear Native American perspectives on Indian Removal, federal Indian policy, Indian territory, and traditional culture.

There will be an expanded Eastern National bookstore featuring books and items on many subjects including Native American history and culture.

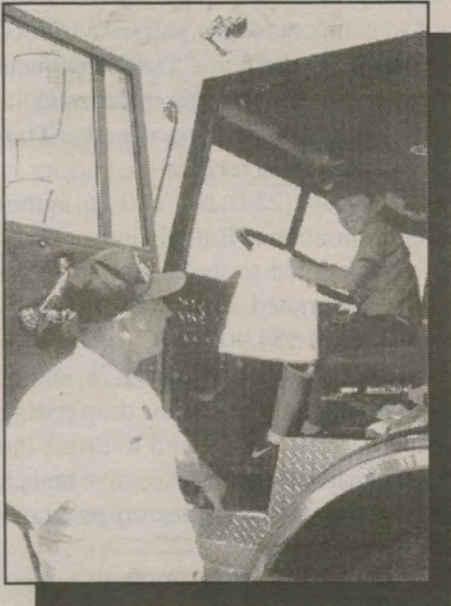
The building's exterior has been restored to reflect a more accurate 1890s appearance. Historic doors and windows have been reproduced with bars and

grates installed. The building has a new entrance designed to facilitate easy access from the parking lot to the visitor center. In preparation for the opening, the park has painted the gallows, flagpole, and interior of the commissary and restored the historic military cistern.

The park grounds underwent renovation in order to assist the visitors in understanding the park's story. Intrusive and non-historic city streets, sidewalks, and utility poles were eliminated and the second fort walls, gates, and buildings were delineated. The old historic military walkway around the fort's parade grounds was restored. A new park sidewalk system with interpretative panels was installed to increase the visitors' understanding and enjoyment of the park.

The Fort Smith National Historic Site is located along the Arkansas River in downtown Fort Smith. The main entrance and parking lot is located at 3rd and Garland Ave. For more information, call Park Ranger Julie Northrip at (501) 783-3961.

Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care Stand for Children Health and Safety Fair June 1



Okmulgee Fire Department staff were on hand with their fire engine. Captain Charlie Dildine offers Clayton Clark of Okmulgee the opportunity to sit at the helm.



Office of child care staff member Steve Landsberry offers Okmulgee brothers Richard and Marchie Brown more treats for their goody bag.

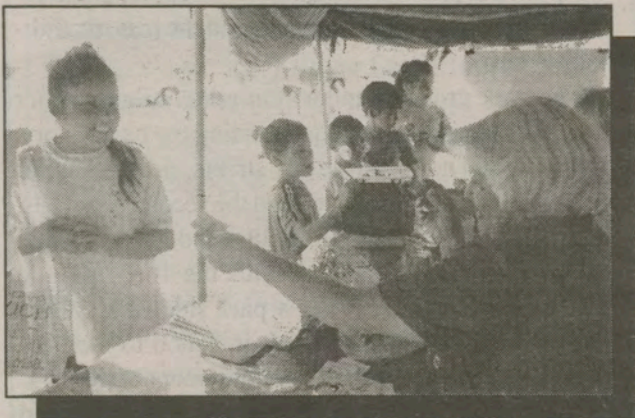


Lighthorse Administration Officer Joe Mosquito fingerprints Darren Jones of Okmulgee.

photos by Stephanie Barnett



Courtney Natseway of Tulsa is poised to make her shot.



Kay Stanford, right, of the OSU Extension Nutrition Education office, offers Kara Hicks of Lawrence, Kan. samples prepared to scintillate the taste buds. Also trying samples are: Andrew Benson; Nathan Holata; Darren Jones; and Beth Morrow, all of Okmulgee.

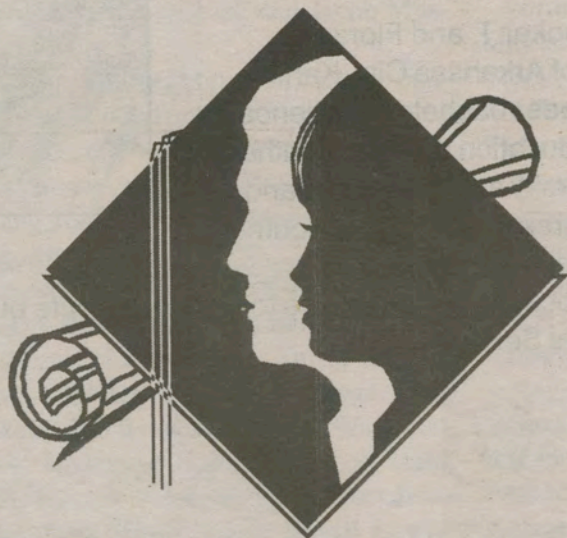


Two unidentified youth frolic at the health fair.



Children from Okmulgee, Sapulpa, and Holdenville child development centers, as well as those receiving home care, were among youth participating in the health fair's many activities, including the balloon toss.

Muscogee Nation Class of 2000



Nick Andersen

Jenks High School

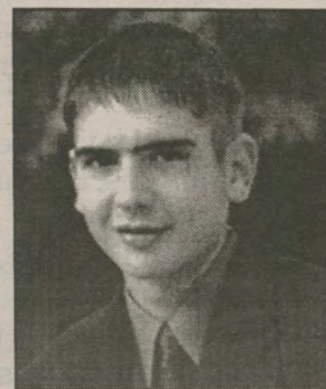
Parents: Dennis and Rita Van Cleave Andersen of Tulsa

Grandparents: the late Amanda Randall Cosar, Sapulpa; Buddy and Ruby Hancock, Tulsa

Activities: high school golf team member, four years

Awards: member of championship winning golf team, 5A state champions in 1997, 1999, and 2000

Plans: he has signed a letter of intent to play golf at Northeastern State University



Rachael Marie Barnett

Glenpool High School

Parents: Faith Watashe

Grandparents: Ernest and Florence Watashe

Activities: vocal music, four years; America Sings, Washington D.C. and Orlando, Fla.; prom committee; student representative to the Indian education program for three years.

Plans: to attend Tulsa Community College



Jamie Campbell

East Central University, Ada

Degree: bachelor of science in biology

Parents: John and Linda B. Campbell of Konawa

Grandparents: the late Willie and Eliza Burgess Jesse; the late Arthur and Annie Lovell Campbell, all of Konawa

Activities: honors student association, ECU Flag Corps, Native American student association, Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry



Jennifer Day

San Jose State University

Degree: bachelor's degree in communications disorders and sciences

Parents: Gary and Betty Gerber of Broken Arrow

Grandparents: Carl Martin of Broken Arrow and the late March Chisholm and Minnie Chisholm Chalakee

Awards: dean's honor roll

Other degrees: associate's degree in applied science in occupational therapy, Oklahoma City Community College

Plans: to pursue her master's degree in communications disorders and sciences in the fall and work as a speech-language pathologist with the public schools

Robert Tyson Deer

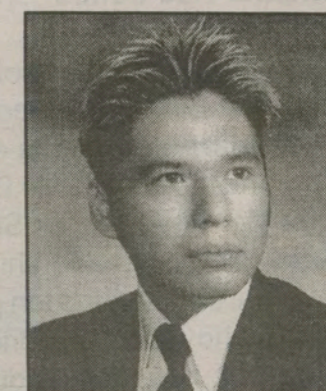
Holdenville High School

Parents: Charles A. Deer

Grandparents: Robert Deer and Amanda Fields

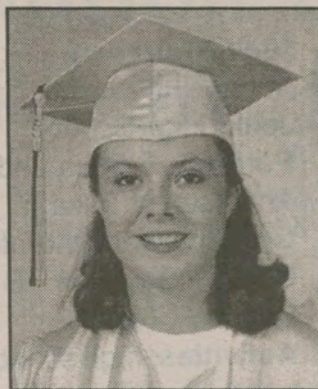
Activities: Fellowship of Christian Athletes; two years; drama club, one year; Future Farmers of America, one year; Future Business Leaders of America, one year; Beta, one year; baseball, two years; football, one year; and vocal music, one year; National Honor Society, four years; and Who's who among American High School Students, two years

Plans: to attend the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

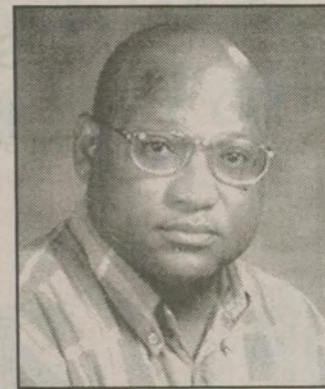


Melissa Ann Doke

Warner High School

Parents: Ronnie and Janice Doke of Warner**Grandparents:** the late James and Lena Davis Wacoche, Eufaula; the late Marion Annie Doke, Porum**Awards:** academic achievements scholarship**Activities:** basketball; fast pitch softball; slow pitch softball; cross country; track, all state and state champion**Plans:** to attend Connors State College**Charles Jeffrey Henderson**

Southwestern College, Winfield, Kan.

Degree: bachelor of arts degree in psychology**Parents:** Booker T. and Flora Henderson of Arkansas City, Kan.**Other degrees:** bachelor of science in vocational education studies, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; and master's degree in education, Southwestern College**Plans:** to relocate to Hurst, Texas to work at his wife business—G.B. Janitorial Services**Jessica Lynn Hudgens**

Tahlequah High School

Parents: Larry and Lenel Hudgens**Grandparents:** Remona Hudgens**Awards:** Who's Who Among American High School Students; Duke's Talent Identification Program; president's award for educational excellence and improvement; international Rotary 'T' winner**Activities:** National Junior Honor Society, president; student council, senior representative; S-Club, sophomore representative, vice president, and president; junior class vice president; National and Oklahoma Honor societies, Spanish club, Bible club, spirit club, and Indian heritage club.**Plans:** to attend Oklahoma State University**Leila Ann Isham**

Moss High School

Parents: Richard Glen and Penny Isham**Grandparents:** Mose and the late Pauline Patty George and the Bill and Christine Wolfe**Awards:** basketball—LRC All-conference, two years, LRC All-star, three years, All Indian All-state 2000, Ada All-star 2000, and LRC All-tournament team, three years; slow pitch—LRC Most Valuable Player, Canadian River All-conference, three years; and fast pitch—all-state honorable mention, Canadian River All-conference, four years**Activities:** principal's honor roll; National and Oklahoma Honor societies; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Future Farmers of America; and senior vice president**Plans:** to attend the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma on full scholarship and major in math and physical education**Shanna Rae Jones**

Broken Bow High School

Parents: Billy and Marcella Jones**Grandparents:** Martha Jones of Broken Bow and the late Lucille Bear, Henryetta**Awards:** All-American Scholar; U.S. National Minority Leadership Award; USAA National Scholar; top ten percent of class; Who's who Among American High School Students; honored graduate; Oklahoma Academic Scholar; Kiwanis Club Senior of the Month; Super Lady Savage Award; Oklahoma Girls Basketball Coaches Association Academic All-stater**Activities:** basketball; softball; and cross country; American Indian Leadership Youth Council; Fellowship of Christian athletes; National and Oklahoma Honor societies; and student council**Plans:** to attend Northeastern State University and major in finance and banking.**Elizabeth Anne Keith**

Goodwell High School

Parents: Rev. Greg and Phyllis Keith**Grandparents:** the Cogee Long and the late Walter Keith; and the late Claude A. Cox**Awards:** full art scholarship to Panhandle State University**Activities:** senior class officer; Miss Goodwell High School; cheerleader, attended state competition in cheerleading; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; homecoming candidate; student council; Centenary United Methodist Youth**Plans:** to attend Panhandle State University

Natalie Garrett Kennedy

The University of Tulsa

Degree: master's degree in anthropology

Parents: Lillian and Jim Thomas of Okmulgee; Thurman P. Garrett Jr. of Muskogee

Grandparents: Lillie and the late Jinkie Thomas of Preston; Thurman P. Garrett and the late Virgie Garrett of Shawnee

Other degrees: bachelor of arts in history with a certificate in Native American studies, The University of Tulsa

Plans: She is currently employed as an archeologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Osage Agency in Pawhuska



Leah Mosquito

Liberty High School

Parents: Rex and Robbie Mosquito

Grandparents: Willie Joe and the late Lena Berryhill Mosquito; John and Anna Mae Jones

Awards: valedictorian; Who's who Among American High School Students; national mathematics award; first place in honors in math; first place in basic grammar; second place in grammar and usage at scholastic meets; student of the month; all-conference softball; all-region softball; defensive player of the year in softball; and Oklahoma Indian Honor Society

Activities: fast pitch softball; student council; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and academic team

Plans: to attend The University of Oklahoma



Shelley Joannah Patrick

Tahlequah High School

Parents: Don Patrick of Lyons and Dr. Phyllis Fife of Tahlequah

Grandparents: the late James and Carmen Fife, Dustin; the late Orville and Sarah Patrick, Lyons

Awards: Tahlequah Tigers Orange Express Marching Band, 2000 director's Outstanding percussionist award; all district band; Tri-state honor band; the Spirit of America National Honor Band; all-state band; president's outstanding academic achievement award; Red Earth and the Tribes Gallery art shows awards for beadwork.

Activities: Oklahoma Indian Honor Society; and National Honor Society

Plans: to attend the University of Arkansas School of Architecture



Staci Elaine Patrick

University of Arkansas

Degree: master of arts degree in English

Parents: Don Patrick of Lyons and Dr. Phyllis Fife of Tahlequah

Grandparents: the late James and Carmen Fife, Dustin; the late Orville and Sarah Patrick, Lyons

Awards: Vance Randolph and Mary Celestia Parler Randolph Fellowship for academic achievement in English language, literature, and folklore;

Activities: teaching assistant for freshman-level English courses, four semesters.

Plans: She has accepted the position of literacy coordinator for Cherokee County and will work with the public library system



Yahnah Sunday Patrick

Northeastern State University

Degree: bachelor of business administration degree in accounting

Parents: Don Patrick of Lyons and Dr. Phyllis Fife of Tahlequah

Grandparents: the late James and Carmen Fife, Dustin; the late Orville and Sarah Patrick, Lyons

Awards: American Indian Merit Award; the Rennard Strickland Indian University Scholars Award; NSU Hall of Fame; NSU Outstanding Senior; academic achievement award for accounting; and Council for Energy Resource Tribes Scholarship

Activities: Indian University Scholars Society, 1999-2000 president; American Indian Science and Engineering Society; and Native American Student Association

Plans: to attend the University of Arkansas in the master of accountancy program.



John Reininger Jr.

Oklahoma School for the Deaf

Parents: John and Sylvia Sulphur Reininger

Grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. Pete Reininger; the late Woodrow and Eleanor Sulphur

Awards: salutatorian; leadership and achievement award; Murray County Retired Teachers Association Scholarship; outstanding student award; and highest grade point average award

Activities: football; basketball; and senior class president

Plans: to attend Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City and major in computer science technology



Board seeks address changes

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Election Board is seeking address changes for registered voters whose addresses are not deliverable.

Voters whose names have been published below are requested to submit their current addresses to the election board.

Current addresses may be submitted by writing: Muscogee Nation Election

Board, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447; or calling, (918) 756-8700, or 1 (800) 482-1979, exts. 294, 349, or 350.

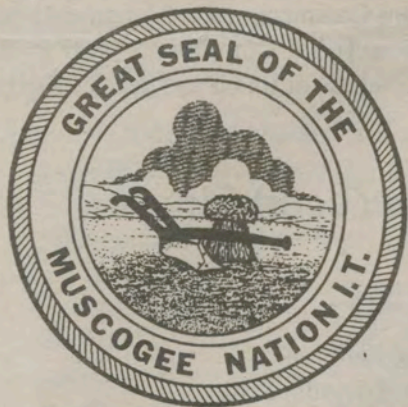
Editor's note: The following names are the second part of a listing of voters with undeliverable addresses. The remainder of the list will be published in upcoming issues of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

HODGE, LARRY DEAN
HOLLEYMAN, HENRY MICHAEL
HOLLEYMAN, RANDALL DEXTER
HOLLEYMAN, ROBERT PARTICK
HOLT, HAZEL MARIE
HOMERATHA, EFFIE
HOPE, PAMELA KAYE
HORTON, ARTIE RAYNELL
HOWELL, HUBERT LEON
HUGHES, TOKA
HULSEY, HARRY JAMES
HUNT, JAMES CHARLES
HUNTER, FRANK JOHN JR.
HUNTER, JOHN HAOWARD
HUNTER-LAW, MICHELE DIANE
HURT, PAULA SUE
INGRAM, MARJORIE ANN
ISHAM, BRENDA DIANE
JACK, EVERETT LEE
JACKSON, ROBERT WADE
JACKSON, TIMMIE OKCHUMPULA
JACKSON, TIMOTHY ANDREW
JACOBS, LINDA
JACOBS, WARREN ALXANDER
JAMES, PHYLLIS ANNETTE
JANZEN, TERESA DARNELL
JIHAD, ROSHELL
JIMBOY, MARCY
JIMBOY, TONYA RENEE'
JOBE, LEO JOHN
JOHNSON, EMMA GUILA
JOHNSON, SARAH
JOHNSON, THOMAS LEE
JOHSON, JEANETTA SUE
JONES, BONNIE LYNN
JONES, KATHRYN WILLIE
KEAOUGH, EVELYN JEAN
KEENE, DARRYL LEE
KELLEHAN, PAULA JEAN
KELLEY, FLORA DARLENE
KELLEY, LORETTA ILENE
KELLY, MARTHA ELIZABETH
KEMP, RANDY GLEN
KEPLEY, PAUL FRANKLIN
KERNAL, HARRY
KERR, MARC RANDEN
KILLINGSWORTH, WILLIAM BRYAN
KING, JAMES FRACIS IV
KIRBY, JAMES DEAN
KOSHIWAY, MARILYN
LADD, TRISHADAWN
LAMAM, JUANITA GERTRUDE
LAND, DINAH K.
LANHAM, LARRY LEE
LAY, PATRICIA ANN
LEACH, LORETTA SUE
LEARD, DALE LEE
LEARD, LANE MACHIE
LEE, JONNIE MAE
LEE, RICKY JAMES
LENA, MARK D.
LEROY, MELISSA ANN
LEVY, DAVID BENJAMIN
LEWIS, HARLEY WAYNE
LEWIS, JAMES RANDALL
LIDYARD, PAMELA JANE
LINGERFELT, BOBBIE JEAN

LITTLE, BOBBY DEAN
LIVINGSTON, PLEZZIE MAYS
LOLLMAN, CHERI JOANN
LONG, DANA EUGENE
LONG, DARLENE JOANN
LONG, PENNY ANN
LONG, RHONDA SUE
LONG, RODDY WILLIAM
LONG, TAYLOR
LOVETT, DONNA LUANN
LOYD, BARRY WENDELL
LOYD, EURA MAE
LUKE, MARY RUTH
LYNCH, RICHARD
LYON, PHILLIP EARL
M,CCLOSKY, BARBARA LEE
MAGEE, ERNEST NEELY
MAHEE, OTIS JR.
MANN, TERRI LEE
MARR, SHELLY KAY
MARRIS, LOUISE
MARSHALL, SEAN LOUIS
MARTIN, LUWANA KAY
MARTIN, ROSA MARY
MARTINEZ, ANGELA DIANE
MASCHAL, CALLIE JANE
MASON, EDWARD JAMES
MASON, HERMAN ANDREW
MASON, NANCY SUE
MASON, SUSAN ALISA
MASTERS, LUZIMENDA LEE
MATHEWS, SHIRLEY ANN
MATTISON, RICHARD DOYLE
MCCLAIN, JOHN ALBERT JR.
MCCLUNG, CHARLES EDWARD III
MCCONNELL, ANNE ASHLEY
MCDANIEL, NINA ILENE
MCGHEE, ELIZABETH
MCINTOHS, CHARLES CURTIS
MCINTOSH, CHARLES EMET
MCINTOSH, CHERYL LYNN
MCINTOSH, CORNELIUS
MCINTOSH, DEBRA KAY
MCINTOSH, DELOIS
MCINTOSH, JOE WILLINGTON
MCINTOSH, NED EMERSON
MCINTOSH, PHILLIP
MCKAY, LELA ELMA
MCKELLIP, JANICE HOPE
MCLAURIN, VELMA JENE
MCLEMORE, JERRY
MCMLAIN, LARRY DON
MCNACK, ALEX JR.
MCQUARIE, ROBERT JAMES
MCQUEEN, DANA RAI
MEASHINTUBBY, NELLIE
MEKEMORE, EVELYN
MELTON, CHALON DENISE
MICKELL, MAYNARD KELLY JR.
MILLER, JERRY DEISE
MILLER, ROBERT CHANCE
MIRABAL, CHARLEEN DAY
MITCHELL, BRYON LEE
MITCHELL, MARTIN LEE JR.
MITCHELL, MINNIE RUTH
MOFFER, KAREN JEAN
MOORE, ALBERT DANIEL

MOORE, DEANA SUE
MORTON, CHALRES MILAN IV
MOSES, CYNTHIA REGINA
MOSS, MAUDIE BEA
MULLER, PAULINE
MULLINIKS, JUDY DARLENE
MURRAY, DORENE KAY
MYERS, REX CURTIS
NAJERA, VICKIE LYNN
NAVARRO, LISA MARIE
NELSON, LORA ANN
NEWBERRY, DAVID NEIL
NEWBERRY, LARRY FLETCHER
NEWPORT, MARGIE MARIE
NICHOLS, ELSIE MARIE
NILIMA, JOSEPHINE
NILIMA, TERESA ANN
NOORE, JIMMIE DEE
NORDLUND, JUDITH RAY
O'FIELD, JACKIE
OLIVER, JACKY CLENTON
OLSEN, CARRIE LEI
OSBURN, HELEN PAULINE
OSTERHOUDT, MARILYN KAY
OWENS, DANNY FLOYD
PACE, EDWARD MCKENDRICK JR.
PACE, JEAN ELLEN
PACE, ROGER WILLIAM
PAINTER, KELLIE RAE
PATTERSON, ERIN DRISTIN
PATTERSON, RENA SHANNON
PEARMAN, GLADYS
PECK, GARY DON
PERKINS, RUTH KATHLEEN
PERRYMAN, DARIO RONIKA
MANUEL
PEURIFOY, AUDREY JUANITA
PICKERING, TIMOTHY
PIGEON, BARBARA JEAN
PITRE, STELLA LOUISE
PITTMAN, LEHMAN GLEN
PITTMAN, MICHAEL JAY
PITTMAN, TOMMY DALE
POERS, CAROLYN SUE
POSEY, GENE RAYMOND
POUNDS, DENNIS L'ROI
PRETICE, SHAUNNA MARCINE
PRETTYMAN, TYRE LEANN
PROCK, KENNETH JONETTE
PROCTOR, FANNIE LYDIA
PROCTOR, JONAS LEE
PROCTOR, RICHARD ALAN
PROCTOR, STEPHANIE LEASA
PULLEN, CATHY CHERI
RADIKE, EDWARD JAY
RADIKE, JAMES KENT
RAINES, MITZI LEE
RAKESTRAW, BEATRICE GRACE
RAMIREZ, RACHEL
RAMSEY, TRECA ANN
RANDOPH, JANLYNN
RARTMESS, DIONE MARIE
REAZIER, DEBRA KAYE
REED, FRANK MILTON PAT JR.
REHLING, MELINDA JO
RENSCH, EDWARD CRAIG
RHYNE, ELLOISE
RICHARDSON, MISTY DAWN
RICHARDSON, VICTOR LLOYD
RIDLEY, BILLIE JEAN
RIDLEY, LORETTA IRENE
RILEY, CAROL ANNETTE
RILEY, JAMES GLEN
RIPPEE, ROBIN LEE
RISENHOOVER, SHIRLEY JOYCE
ROACH, KEVIN WARD
ROBERTS, KITSY LUANN
ROBERTS, PAUL EVERETT
ROBERTS, TERESA KAY
ROBINSON, ERMA JEANE
ROBISON, JIMMIE DALE
ROBISON, ROBERT CHRIS
ROBISON, SHIRLEY MAE

ROGERS, TRACY LEE
ROLEY, ABBIE ELAINE
ROSE, DAYTON MORRISON JR.
ROWLAND, IMA JEAN
RUSSELL, FLOYD ALLEN
SAMPSON, TIMOTHY JAMES
SANDERS, ANNETTE RENE
SANDERS, NATHAN
SANDERS, ROBIN PATRICK
SAPPINGTON, SHERRY LYNN
SCHMIDT, DAVID BRUCE
SCHREINER, RHONDA DEAN
SCOTT, JOHN TURNER JR.
SCOTT, BARBARA MAXINE
SCOTT, LINDA KAY
SCOTT, SAUNDRA LYNN
SEARS, JAMES LESLIE
SEIFRIED, CLARENCE MATTHEW
SEITZ, ROBERT JOSEPH
SELF, JIMMY RUSSELL
SELF, RUBEN KEBVIN
SELF, TONEY JACKSON
SHANKLES, LEE ANN
SHARP, ALVIN WILLARD
SHARP, JIM
SHELDON, COLLEENJEAN
SHEPPARD, BETTY JUNE
SHIELDS, SUZANNE ELIZABETH
SHOPE, WANDA LOUISE
SHOWALTER, FANNY
SIMONDS, PATRICIA ALINE
SJOHNSTON, SUSAN ELIZABETH
SLAYDEN, LEOLA MAXINE
SMITH, DAVID J.
SMITH, DONALD DALE JR..
SMITHEE, DERID RON
SMOOT, JERRY DOYLE
SNOW, JIMMY
SONS, DOUGLAS ALAN
SONS, STEVEN MICHAEL
SORRELL, ANGELA KAE
SOUTHERLAND, EBBIN RANEY
SPEAR, ALTA LEE
SPEAR, KEVAN LUKE
SPEER, JULIE VIRGINIA
STEFANEK, KENNETH THOMAS
STEGER, SHELLEY DAWN
STEWART, DEBORA DANISE
STIDHAM, SUSAN LYNN
STILLWELL, FANNIE
STOEBNER, JIM BOB
STOEBNER, TERRY EDWARD
STOMSKE, TERRY
STUEMKY, LAUR ALISON
SUPERNOW, REOBERTA JUNE
SUTTON, RONNIE CLYDE
TABOR, NANCY CATHERINE
TADLOC, MINNIE LUCILLE
TARKINGTON, TAMMY LEE
TAYLOR, ETHEL MAY
TAYLOR, JOYCE RUTH
TAYLOR, MARY HELEN
TAYLOR, SUZANNE ELAINE
TAYLOR, WILEY
THEUS, LAJEUNE JOANN
THOMAS, CARLA JANINE
THOMAS, EDDIE LEROY
THOMAS, EMMET EUGENE
THOMAS, TODD JAY
THOMPSON, MARYLENA SUE
THOMPSON, WILLIAM LEWIS
THUDIUM, SHIRLEY ANN
TIEBEN, EDNA BETTIE
TIEBEN, JOHN KITE
TIGER PHILLIP CHEROKEE
TIGER, ANGELA MARIE
TIGER, HAROLD CHARLES
TIGER, KEITH JOHNSON
TIGER, MICHAEL JAMES
TIGER, MILLER JAMES
TIMKEN, JENNIFER MOORE
TIMOTHY, WILLIAM SCOTT
TOMLIN, CHIFFIE TYRONE



The Muscogee Nation News

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July 2000, 24 pages

Housing and tribal employees arrested on counts of embezzlement

OKMULGEE—A Creek Nation Housing Authority manager and Muscogee Nation Natural Resources manager were arrested in two separate cases of embezzlement, theft, and false accounts.

On July 7, Acting Tribal Attorney General Jessie Huff Durham issued a criminal complaint to Muscogee Nation District Court against housing authority manager Gary Davis for the following counts:

- count one: embezzlement, theft, and false accounts—embezzlement of “monies, funds, credits, goods, assets, equipment, tools, or other property belonging to the Nation...” The count also states that Davis instructed three of his employees—Ben Yahola, Brad Fox, and Travis Whitlow to repair his home with parts purchased with housing authority petty cash; and
- count two: instructing subordinate employees to perform services to his personal home during regular housing authority hours of operation.

Davis was arrested and taken to tribal district court for initial appearance on July 10. Because he did not have legal representation, the court entered a plea of not guilty on his behalf. Davis' bond was set at \$2,000.

Because of an ongoing housing authority criminal investigation, tribal office of attorney general Criminal Investigator Marc Fields would not comment on inquiries made to the Davis' case.

In a separate case, Huff issued a criminal complaint against Tribal Natural Resources Manager Stacy McIntosh for three counts of embezzlement, theft, and false accounts. On three separate occasions in June, McIntosh sold tribally-owned hay at a total around \$6,000, keeping \$4,500 for his personal

please see **EMBEZZLEMENT...**, page 4

Clarification

The fifth column of last month's page one story—“Tribal delegation travels to capital in support of Oklahoma Indian Issues”—by Kathryn Bell should have read: “Chief Beaver reaffirmed the statements made by Dr. Charles Grim, director of the Oklahoma City Area IHS, in his testimony before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs when he pointed out the disparity in IHS funding—the Oklahoma City Area IHS receives IHS funding at \$825 per person, while Alaska receives \$2,655 per person and California receives \$1,870 per person.”

Artist makes call for “Creek” and Seminole art Muscogee metalsmith appears on magazine cover

by Gerald Wofford

DALLAS—Muscogee tribal member Kenneth Johnson is the featured artist on the southwest region edition of “Cowboys & Indians” for September.

Johnson, who was educated at Seneca Indian School and later graduated from Sequoyah High School in 1984, speaks about his art—“Designing metalwork allows me to explore previous expressions from my culture and incorporate those patterns, motifs, or meanings into current work...”

Johnson apprenticed under Choctaw Metalsmith Johnson Bobb 13 years ago in Albuquerque, N.M.

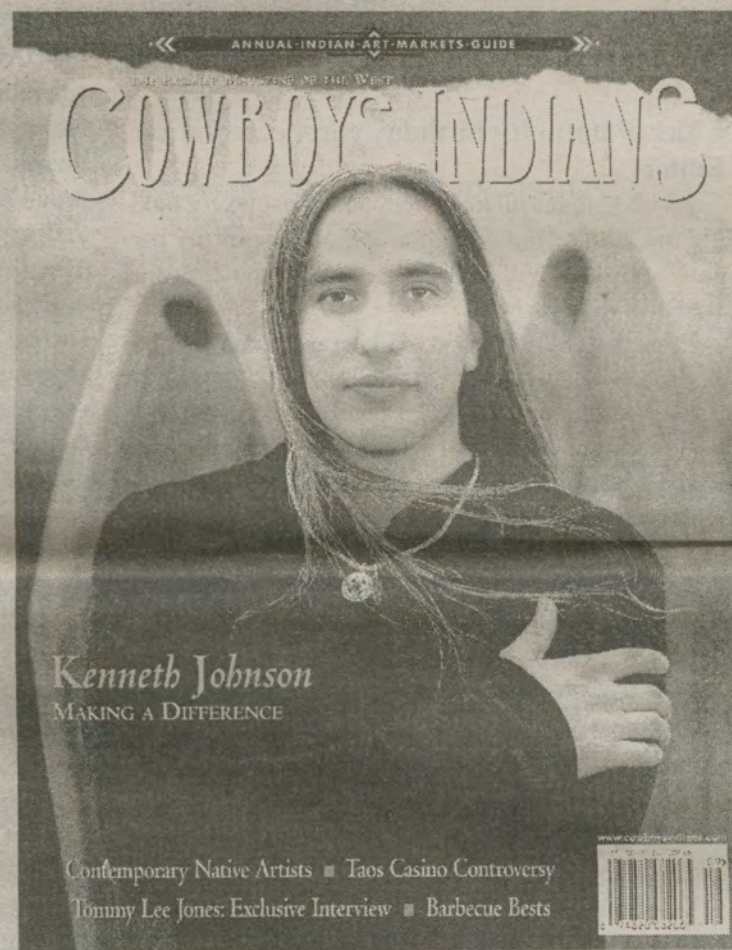
His work has been accepted for show at the 78th Santa Fe Indian Market to be

please see **METALSMITH...**, page 4

Innovative art sought for traveling exhibit

Muscogee-Seminole Metalsmith Kenneth Johnson is seeking innovative “Creek” and Seminole art for his traveling exhibit “Southeast Spectrum, Contemporary Movements in

please see **ART...**, page 4



art courtesy of “Cowboys & Indians”

Okmulgee allottee reaches one hundred years; still cooking, sewing, and actively involved in Christian work

OKMULGEE—Original allottee Martha Berryhill was honored with a 100th birthday celebration at Tallahassee Methodist Church on July 9.

Berryhill was born to Harrison Berryhill and Betty Burgess on July 12, 1900 in a rural Okmulgee farm house located on what is now known as



Berryhill

Celia Berryhill Road.

She attended “orphan school” in Okmulgee which was located on what is now the Oklahoma State University—Okmulgee campus. Berryhill attended school at St. Anthonys in Muskogee, Nuyaka Mission, and Eufaula Boarding School also.

Berryhill, a member of Tallahassee Methodist Church, is in good health, ambulatory and lives by herself. She still cooks and enjoys sewing and playing the tambourine in church. Berryhill uses a local taxi service to pay her bills and visit elder people as part of her nursing home ministry.

She is the mother of four—Ruby Mauk and Joseph Haynes, both of Tulsa; the late Betty Haynes; and a daughter that died in infancy. She has eight grandchildren.

Letters to the editor

Man seeks donation of language resources Editor:

I would like to learn how to speak the Maskoke language. Are there any pamphlets or tapes of Maskoke translation to English so I may learn some of the people's language?

I'm incarcerated, so my only resource is donations from the community. My parents don't follow the Red Road, so there is no support in my own spiritual walk. The only spiritual support I have is you, for publishing my requests, and the people there who have responded.

Individuals that have Maskoke language resources that they would like to give Buck may send them to: Ray Buck #J87729, P.O. Box 409000 B-10-118, Ione, CA.

Respectfully,
Ray Buck, Ione, Calif.

Elder grateful for birthday party celebration Editor:

I wish to thank all my nieces and nephews for holding my 80th birthday dinner at the home of my parents—the late Wysena Madison and Annie Brown Bucktrot in Bristow.

Everyone enjoyed good food, games, and the photo session.

I would like to offer thanks to: special guest Julia Winningham of Sapulpa for the nice gift; my sister, Ruth Crittenden, of Stilwell for her cooking skills; and my son, Charles Jones, of Claremore for the beautiful cake.

I would like to say thanks for the love and concern

the Bucktrot family showed. Ho!

Love to all,
Phoebe Bucktrot Jones, Claremore

Committee of Osten chair resigning Editor:

I am resigning as chairperson of the Committee of Osten effective July 1 because of health problems.

I want to take this opportunity to thank some people for their help in promoting the success of veterans' observances.

My sincere thanks goes to the National Council for their wholehearted support of our requests for the veterans' project. The staff of *The Muscogee Nation News* have done all in their power to help the Committee of Osten. The following have been very supportive in giving of time, service, and finances: A.D. Ellis, second chief; Tulsa Indian Community Center; Okmulgee Indian Community, Muskogee Indian Community; Checotah Indian Community; Wilson Indian Community; June Musteri; Pearl Thomas; Norma Bible; Esther Grona; Dorothy Pinezaddleby; Shirley Almerigi; Lou Fixico [tribal elderly nutrition program] and staff; Danny Roberts [tribal facilities] and staff; Stanley Roberts; Roman Watashe; John Timothy; Edwin Moore; and Rev. Harry Long.

To all of the above—*mvto* and appreciation for your service. I know that all veterans, living and dead, are, also grateful for what you did. If I overlooked anyone, please accept my apologies—your time and efforts were noted by the Creator.

Jorene Anderson Coker, Preston

Editor's note: As the chair of the Committee of Osten, Coker spearheaded the effort to erect the

Mvskoke Veterans Commemorative Monument at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Complex as well as the collection of a database of living and deceased tribal veterans.

June district court filings

Criminal

No filings for June

Small claims

Royal Finance v. Pat Frank

Royal Finance v. Leiandra Schunk

Foreign judgments

First Family Federal Credit Union v. Michael J. Fish

Creditors Recovery v. Randy Cusher

Civil

Charles Thomas Jones and Elsie Jones v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma d/b/a Creek Nation Travel Plaza

Seminole Nation Development Authority v. David Morris and Connie Morris

Divorces

No filings for June

Domestic violence

Susan Doty v. Percy Sharp

LaDonna Sharp v. Percy Sharp

Pauline Jack v. Billy Hart

Susan Doty v. Percy Sharp

Reachelle Harjo and Jason Harjo v. Myra Worcester and Jamie Scott.

Second opinion

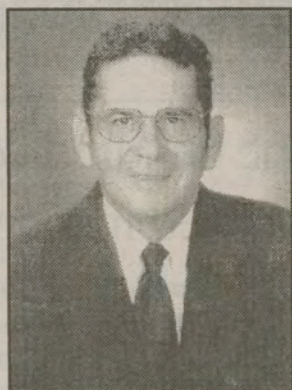
by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello friends and fellow Muscogee citizens.

June has been another busy month. On June 15, I was invited to Koweta Indian Community Center for a Father's Day dinner. Visiting with its many senior citizens and fathers was a joy.

The annual Creek Nation Festival was a mixture of fun and rain. I inspected the Claude Cox Omnplex a day before the Festival and it was mowed, trimmed, and a very pretty site. The new, paved roads, new electrical hookups, and improved ball fields are a credit to the Festival Committee. We should all appreciate the hard and long hours that they worked that weekend.

I visited Creek Nation Community Hospital, its Emergency Medical Service, and the tribal vocational rehabilitation program while in Okemah last week. Later that day, Dr. Lois Beard—Okmulgee tribal health center—gave me a tour of the family, children, and dental clinics. We are working with the Indian Health Service and also our national leaders to secure more funding for health care. There is never enough funding to meet our needs. Only aggressive



Ellis

economic development and income from tribal businesses will ensure better services to our citizens.

George Scott of Salt Creek has been selected chair of the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and everyone is working to improve our housing program. Marshall Hardin of Okmulgee is a new housing commissioner also.

On June 22, I visited the Eufaula Health Center and nutrition program. At each location, people voiced their concerns and suggestions to help improve our services. This is the kind of input I need when visiting each community or center. With close contact in all areas of our Nation, I can take back the information to tribal headquarters, confer with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver and/or division directors to try and solve the problems. Sometimes I even get a hand shake and someone says, "good job, well done." We are here to serve our people and never to busy to listen and take action.

I visited with the tax commissioner last week about veterans' auto tags. They have been ordered, but have not yet arrived from the manufacturing site. Each tag will be distinguished with the word "veteran." Two other tags will be available for veterans that were prisoners of war and those that are recipients of the purple heart.

Best wishes and good health. *Mvto*,
Second Chief A.D. Ellis

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the June regular and special sessions held June 24 and 29 respectively.

June 24 regular session

Absent was **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District.

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (24-0) Tribal Resolution 00-26, authorizing membership of Muscogee Nation Office of Environmental Services in the Tribal Association on Solid Waste and Emergency Response;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Duke Harjo**, Creek; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee;

- approved unanimously (24-0) TR 00-27, confirming the renomination of **L.C. Franks** to serve on the Muscogee Nation Election Board;

Franks is a tribal citizen residing in **Holdenville**;

- approved unanimously (24-0) as amended TR 00-28, mandating all directors, managers, and administrative personnel of all Muscogee Nation branches of government, divisions, programs, and independent agencies direct their respective staff to curtail or eliminate, where appropriate, the excessive use of voicemail capabilities;

- approved unanimously (24-0) as amended TR 00-29, confirming the nomination of **Patricia Wind** as the deputy director of the division of human development;

Wind is a tribal citizen residing in **Muskogee**;

- approved unanimously (24-0) TR 00-30, approving the selection of contractors for major rehabilitation work for the Creek Nation Housing Authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for such work;

- approved unanimously (24-0) TR 00-31, correcting the term of office for **Jon Tiger**, citizenship board member, to a five-year term and repealing TR 00-24;

- approved (13-11) National Council Resolution 00-10, confirming the nomination of **Kenneth L. Childers** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Harjo**, Creek; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; **McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Peak**, Tulsa;

Childers is a tribal citizen residing in **Glenpool**;

- approved (22-2) to table National Council Act 00-01, authorizing the management compensation group to initiate a tribal burial program through a group life insurance program;

voting no were: **Chupco**, Muskogee and **T. Pickering**, McIntosh;

- approved (14-10) NCA 00-58, adjusting the compensation paid to the speaker of the National Council

based on responsibilities and authorities and to amend NCA 92-193 (Muscogee National Council Compensation Act). The act establishes compensation for the Speaker of the National Council at a salary range of \$38,646 to \$50,640 per year during the term for which he/she serves. The position is entitled to the same benefits as provided to tribal employees. The compensation is effective fiscal year 2001;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Little**, Muskogee; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Mosquito**, Creek; **Peak**, Tulsa; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

- approved (18-6) NCA 00-79, amending NCA 99-159 (an ordinance of the Muscogee Nation amending NCA 98-02 as it applies to Okmulgee Indian Community). National Council Act 99-159 was enacted to implement a settlement agreement between Okmulgee Indian Community and the Muscogee Nation in regard to NCA 98-02—dealing with compensation for loss of cigarette and tobacco sales because of competition from Creek Nation Travel Plaza. The agreement—settled in Muscogee Nation District Court—states that the tribal controller is required to pay the community quarterly payments equal to three percent of gross cigarette and tobacco sales. National Council Act 99-159 was amended by the National Council to three percent net sales. To remain consistent with the agreement decided in district court, NCA 00-79 amends NCA 99-159 to reflect a payment of a three percent gross sales;

voting no were: **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Peak**, Tulsa;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-84, a bill of the Muscogee Nation repealing NCA 00-36 and approving an amendment to the lease agreement between Heartland Ventures II, L.L.C. and the Muscogee Nation and authorizing the principal chief to execute the same;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-88, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into agreements with Jeff Andrews, American Institute of Architects, for Muscogee Nation's Muscogee Bingo Hall. The act also allows the GOAB to expend \$425,000 from the hall's facility improvement account for improvements and to provide compensation to the architect at seven percent of estimated construction costs;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-89, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into agreement with Rocky Electric and Lumi Tubes Neon for Muscogee Nation's Okmulgee Bingo Hall. The agreement is for installation of neon lights around the roof line of the hall; \$17,074 will be paid out of the hall's facility improvements account;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-90, authorizing the principal chief to investigate and negotiate for land in Okmulgee and authorizing an appropriation of funds for related costs;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-94, authorizing an appropriation of \$1,462 for a Muscogee elder who is in need of financial assistance for medical bills;

- approved (23-1) NCA 00-95, making a special appropriation of \$1,500 for Alabama-Quassarte Ceremonial Ground's Green Corn Ceremony;

voting no was **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-96, approv-

ing the FY 2000 Indian Housing Plan;

- approved unanimously (24-0) as amended NCA 00-99, authorizing an appropriation—in the amount of \$8,829—for the children and family services program to fund the Muscogee Nation Inter-Tribal Summer Youth Gathering;

- approved (23-1) NCA 00-100, authorizing a cultural preservation act appropriating funds—\$1,500—to Tahlahvse Ceremonial Ground (McIntosh County) for Green Corn;

voting no was **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-101, authorizing an emergency appropriation—\$1,922—for a Muscogee elder; and

- approved unanimously (24-0) NCA 00-103, approving a grazing lease on property in Hughes County.

In items for consideration it:

- approved (20-3-1) TR 00-18, confirming the nomination of **Judy Longhorn-Haumpy** as deputy director of the division of community services;

voting no were: **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **S. Pickering**, Creek; and **T. Pickering**, McIntosh;

abstaining was: **McGirt**, Tukvptce;

Haumpy is a tribal citizen residing in **Tulsa**; and

- approved unanimously (24-0) to table NCA 00-77, authorizing a special appropriation for the Dewar Indian Community elders' group for expenses related to the National Indian Council on Aging Conference to be held in Duluth, Minn.

June 29 special session

Absent were: **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; Creek; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek; and **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek;

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (15-0) as amended National Council Act 00-93, appropriating funds—\$10,000—to West Eufaula Indian Mission Baptist Church for repair;

- approved unanimously (15-0) NCA 00-108, requesting an appropriation—\$36,852—for elders of the Muscogee Nation to attend the National Indian Council on Aging Conference in Duluth, Minn.;

In unfinished business it:

- approved unanimously (16-0) NCA 00-77, authorizing a special appropriation—\$2,500—for the Dewar Indian Community elders' group for expenses related to the National Indian Council on Aging Conference;

In items for consideration it:

- approved unanimously (16-0) Tribal Resolution 00-32, in support of the Northeastern Tribal Health System to manage health services provided at the Indian Health Service Miami Indian Health Center under the authority of PL 93-638 as amended, utilizing a contract or compact;

- approved unanimously (16-0) as amended NCA 00-106, authorizing a supplemental appropriation—\$66,000—for the social services burial program;

- approved unanimously (16-0) as amended NCA 00-110, appropriating supplemental funding—\$30,000—for the emergency medical assistance program of the Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration; and

- approved unanimously (16-0) NCA 00-109, appropriating supplemental funding—\$40,000—for the tribal vision program of the Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration.

Programs-notices

Community service worker assisting veterans

OKMULGEE—A community service worker is now available to assist veterans and their dependents and widows with filing claims with the Veterans Administration.

The community service worker, Robert "Bill" Jones, is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and one-half day on Thursdays. His office is located in the old dining hall in the administration building at the tribal capitol complex.

Dewar community forms diabetes support group

DEWAR—A diabetes support group has been formed at Dewar Indian Community. The group is a resource for educational literature as well as informative venues with speakers from the Muscogee Nation Health Administration.

Its leadership is: Rex Watson, president; Oleta Donathon, secretary-treasurer; and community leaders, Eliza and Houston Hicks and Fannie and Smiley Barnett. The Dewar Indian Community Diabetes Support Group meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.

For more information, call Bertha Taylor at 652-8189.

Mvskoke Senior Citizens establishing newsletter

DEWAR—The Mvskoke Senior Citizens decided to begin mailing out a news letter at their June meeting.

The newsletter, "The Gray Wolf," has been established to inform elders of community events, activities, and opportunities. Member Jim McGirt, also a Tukvptce District Representative to the National Council, will serve as editor. Submit information to him by writing: P.O. Box 220, Holdenville, OK 74848.

The elders also discussed eyeglass monies. "We discussed the amount of \$140 the Council approved for eyeglasses was not enough for senior citizens who use bifocals. We would like a new bill from the National Council to increase the eyeglasses program from \$140 to \$240 for senior citizens," said Chair Esther Grona.

Social Services taking applications for assistance

OKMULGEE—Muscogee Nation Social Services is

Officer and bingo player save man from potentially fatal heart attack

TULSA—In June Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo management recognized Lighthouse Administration Officer Gaines Bunny and bingo player Kay Walkup, a registered nurse, for actions which saved a customer from a potentially fatal heart attack.

On May 8 Leo Shephard, a customer who was playing in the special games casino room, was discovered unconscious on the restroom floor.

While Bunny was monitoring his breathing and pulse, Shephard quit breathing. Bunny proceeded to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation on him. While Bunny was performing CPR, Walkup arrived and began assisting Bunny.

"After EMSA arrived and stabilized the customer we were told that this customer had suffered a heart attack and had Officer Bunny and Kay Walkup not performed CPR, the customer would not have survived," said General Manager Glen Coleman just prior to presenting the two individuals certificates of appreciation for heroism.

"Due to these two dedicated people a customer survived a potentially fatal heart attack and we feel that this action



submitted photo

Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo General Manager Glen Coleman, far right, presents Officer George Bunny and bingo player Kay Walkup with certificates of appreciation.

deserves special recognition—because in this day and age it takes special people to perform mouth to mouth resuscitation and disregard their own personal safety," Coleman said.

available to take applications from Native Americans needing assistance with basic living needs—shelter and utility expenses—at different field sites within the Muscogee Nation.

The fields site times, dates, and locations are:

- 9 to 11 a.m.—Aug. 15 and Sept. 5 and 19 at Holdenville Indian Community Center located at 224 E. Poplar;
- 1 to 3 p.m.—Sept. 5 at Muscogee Indian Community Center located at 111 S. Virginia;
- 9 to 11 a.m.—Aug. 16 and Sept. 6 and 20 at Okemah Indian Community Center located at 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.;
- 9 to 11 a.m.—Aug. 17 and Sept. 7 and 21 at Eufaula Indian Community Center located at 800 Forest Ave.; and
- 1 to 3 p.m.—Aug. 17 and Sept. 7 and 21 at Sapulpa Indian Health Center located at 1125 E. Cleveland.

Tulsa community holding "Summer Sizzler"

TULSA—Tulsa Creek Indian Community is holding a "Summer Sizzler" on Aug. 5.

chose me," Johnson adds.

The five year old international magazine, which caters to western enthusiasts, also includes articles on American Indians.

Johnson is the fifth Native American to appear on the cover, other American Indians include: Michael Horse; Michael Greyeyes; Irene Bedard; and Pahponee.

Johnson currently resides in Albuquerque, N.M. He belongs to the Bird Clan and is the son of Rowena Johnson of Amarillo, Texas and the grandson of the late Lucinda Walkinstick, Tulsa.

nole Art' exhibition was conceived primarily to give visibility to current artwork made by Creek and Seminole affiliated artists living in this century," Johnson said.

The exhibit is the community project component of a Smithsonian Institution Artist-in-residence Fellowship that Johnson received in 1999. The fellowship has afforded Johnson the opportunity to travel to New York, Washington D.C., and Massachusetts to study Muscogee, Seminole, and moundbuilder artifacts.

Artists may contact Johnson at: (505) 831-0643; or e-mail—kjohnson@numa.niti.org.

Music and various will be held as part of the event. Food concessions and arts and crafts will be available. Vendor booth space is available for \$20. The community center is located at 8611 South Union Ave. For more information, call (918) 298-2464.

Keepers Conference 2000 to be held in Seminole

SEMINOLE—The Ninth Annual Keepers of the Treasures Conference will be held Aug. 14 through 17 at Seminole State College.

The conference theme is "Renewing the Circle: Languages, Lifeways, and Legacies." The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma will host the 2000 conference with Seminole State College, with sponsorship by the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma and the National Park Service.

This conference sessions will include: language retention; protection of sacred sites; tribal museums, funding sources for language and cultural programming; the National Museum of the American Indian 4th Museum Outreach Program; Smithsonian Institution Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Review Committee updates; Native American literature and poetry; traditional healing practices; legislative updates; National Park Service NAGPRA repatriation updates; ways to renew community tribal cultures; collaborative organizing; activism and historic preservation issues; Native American archaeology; and general sessions addressing current issues and concerns in Native America.

Keepers Conference 2000 will hold two culture nights hosted by the Iowa Tribe and the Seminole Nation which will include traditional tribal foods and dancing. Cultural highlights will also include an art show featuring prominent Oklahoma Indian artists and a Seminole photo exhibit, "The Everlasting Fire." For more information contact the Seminole Nation Historic Preservation Office at (405) 382-5194.

Embezzlement

continued from page 1
benefit.

McIntosh, a tribal citizen, was arrested and made initial appearance in tribal district court on July 12. The court entered a plea of not guilty for the defendant because he did not have an attorney. His bond was set at \$3,000.

Arraignment hearings for both men will be held on Aug. 16 in tribal district court.

Metalsmith

continued from page 1

held Aug. 21 and 22 in Santa Fe, N.M. He has also been selected as the feature artist of the Tulsa Indian Art Festival to be held in February 2001.

The editors of "Cowboys and Indians" magazine approached Johnson and offered him the possibility of appearing on the cover. "It took a while for them to decide to use me as a feature on their cover because there were other Indian artists to consider, but I'm grateful that they

Art

continued from page 1

Creek and Seminole Art."

The exhibit—which will feature 12 to 15 Muscogee (Creek) and/or Seminole artists—is scheduled to open Jan. 5, 2001 at the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. It will run through February 16.

Johnson is encouraging Creek and Seminole artists to submit recent and "innovative" works. Artists are requested to submit two to four pieces of work by Aug. 30.

'Contemporary Movements in Creek and Semi-

26th Annual Creek Nation Festival

Miss Mvskoke Nation and Little Miss Mvskoke Pageants



Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 2000-2001 Sonny Roberts is the daughter of Carney and Lerena and Carney Roberts of Okemah



Roberts with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver



Chief Beaver with Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division II Candace Alexander and Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division I Elisa Fields—they are the daughters of Darren and Bonnie Alexander of Okmulgee and Billy and Leah Fields of Ada, respectively

photos by Gerald Wofford



Roberts, Alexander, and Junior Miss Mvskoke Nation Katy Burden pose on one of the entries in the Festival's Indian car contest



Burden and Chief Beaver—she is the daughter of Steve and Joyce Burden of Weleetka

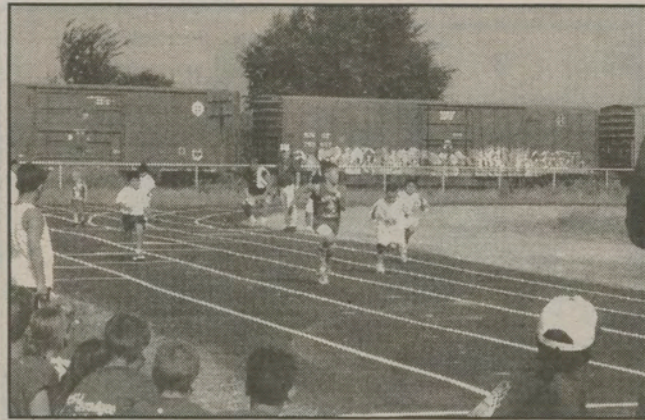


1986 Creek Nation Princess Melinda Taryole Taylor, of Henryetta, and her cousin, Roberts

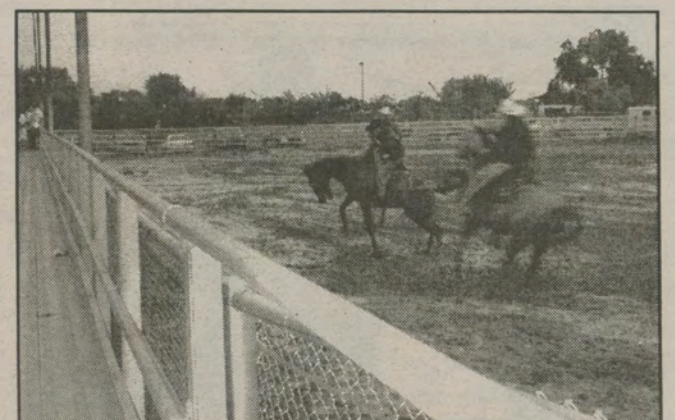
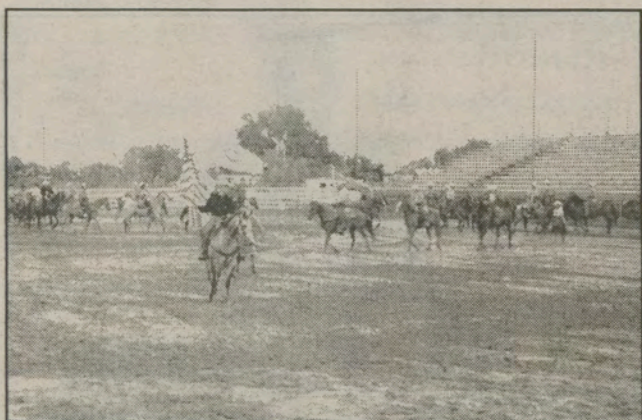


Alexander and Chief Beaver

Junior olympics and rodeo



olympics photos by Denise Jacobs
rodeo photos by Gerald Wofford



Quilt show



Joyce Bear of Muskogee received third place with her star quilt



Coweta citizen Barbara Gillespie's "Antique Fan," made by her mother, the late Violet Childers Freeman, received second place



Each block of this quilt was made in the 1980s by women of churches belonging to the Women's Missionary Union of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association.

Marking the association's 100th anniversary, the quilt was presented to Samaria Leader, who was president of the WMU for many years. Leader also worked for the WMU at the state level for many years. With her husband, Rev. Edward Leader, she served a Florida Seminole mission at Brighton Reservation for 14 years.

Mrs. Leader and her husband were longtime members of Little Cussetah Baptist Church, Sapulpa.

The quilt was donated to the Nation by the nieces and nephews of Mrs. Leader: Irene Land Lumley; Joseph A. Land; Vernon G. Land; Paul E. Land, Mary Anne Marshall; and Sara L. Morton

photos by Stephanie Barnett



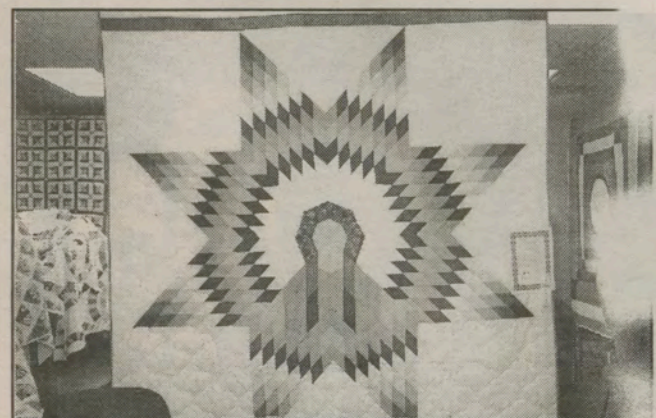
Kvncate area tribal citizen Anna Mae O'Field received first place honors with "Grandmother's Fan"



Julia Winningham of Sapulpa is pictured with her entry, "Indian Maiden" baby quilt



"Creek Nation Seal" was one of three entries by first place winner O'Field



Morris citizen Kathy Haney's Navajo-made, "Warbonnet Star Quilt"

Gospel singing and Blues Festival



Festival gospel singing coordinator and member of well-known gospel singing group, "The Buck Family," Nathan "Wahoo" Buck



"The Newtons" a predominantly Broken Arrow-based group, left to right, are: Michael, Patty, and Shawna Newton, and Curtis Kinney of Muskogee



National Council Okmulgee District Representative Sandra Peters sings "Amazing Grace"

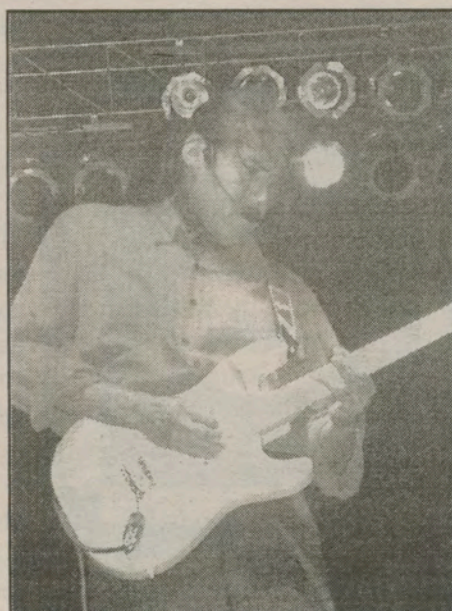
photos Stephanie Barnett



The Ada Harmonettes, left to right, are: Belle Harjo of Konawa; Sue Waldon of Ada; Al Brown of Ada; and (not pictured) Tara, Nathan, and Melissa Harjo, all of Konawa.



Black Hawk blues band members, left to right, are: Cecil Gray of Anadarko; Melvin Scott of Oklahoma City; and Battiest Jones of Oklahoma City



Lead vocalist Tulsan Harrison Begaye of "Color Blind"



Black Hawk blues band drummer Al Garcia of Oklahoma City

5k run



Overall women's first place runner tribal citizen Lila Ballenger of Okmulgee



Runners shortly after the start of the run



Men's overall first place runner Wes Hollander of Tulsa

photos by Stephanie Barnett



Pictured left are male and female winners from every age division of the run, left to right, front row: Frank Koupe of Tulsa; Ray Tainpeah of Shawnee; Sammy Lewis (partially obscured) of Okmulgee; Vanessa Horner of Henryetta; Tamera Glenmore of Henryetta; Rosanna Factor of Okmulgee; Sandy Lane of Tulsa; Ballenger; Opal Alexander of Tulsa; Linda Peeler of Morris; Betty Bell of Seminole; and Darren Rock of Morris; back row—Larry Biddle of Okmulgee; Dan Taylor of Sperry; Ted Duvall of Owasso; Carl Peterson of Okmulgee; Hollander; Bill Hardin of Morris; Tommy Thomas of Austin, Texas; Shannon Wood of Claremore; Gary Williams of Muskogee; and Sean Herbig of Fowler, Kan.



Tainpeah introduces himself to Okmulgee runners, Lewis, B. Factor, and R. Factor

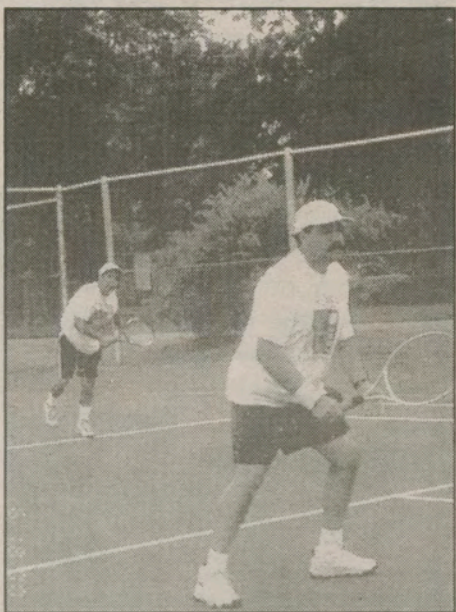


Overall men and women's first place runners Hollander and Ballenger



Okmulgee runners Lewis, B. Factor, and R. Factor replenish with food and drink

Tennis



Loy Thomas (foreground) of Okmulgee and Bill Louis (background) of Duncanville, Texas play in the men's intermediate doubles



Men's open singles winners Eli Hawzipta of Pawhuska and Jeff Stone of Claremore



Father and son men's open doubles team Leon and E. Hawzipta of Pawhuska

photos by Vicki Tate

Men's open singles

first: Jeff Stone of Claremore
second: Eli Hawzipta of Pawhuska
third: Scott Johnson of Muskogee

Men's intermediate singles

first: Bill Louis, Duncanville of Texas
second: Floyd Jones of Okmulgee
third: Marcy Washington

Men's 40 and over singles

first: Ross Stone of Claremore
second: Louis
third: Loy Thomas, Okmulgee

Men's open doubles

first: Jerry Bales of Tulsa and Bruce Harjo of Edmond
second: Louis Hawzipta and E. Hawzipta

Men's intermediate doubles

first: Louis and Thomas
second: Floyd Bales of Morris and Jones
third: R. Stone and Marcy Washington



Women's open singles winners Vicki Tate of Mounds and Tasha Morgan of Muskogee

Women's open singles

first: Tasha Morgan of Muskogee
second: Vicki Tate of Mounds
third: Carlene Madrid of Sapulpa

Women's open doubles

first: Abbie Johnson of Duncanville, Texas and Morgan
second: Madrid and Tate

Mixed doubles

first: S. Johnson and Morgan
second: J. Bales and Madrid
third: Louis and A. Johnson

Boy's 14 and under singles

first: Jordon Cox of Henryetta
second: Aaron Jones of Beggs
third: Zac Thomas of Okmulgee

Girl's 18 and under singles

first: Crystal Switch of Midwest City
second: Iris Gee of Okmulgee
third: Alyssa Thomas of Okmulgee



Men's intermediate doubles teams: Thomas; Floyd Jones of Okmulgee; Ross Stone of Claremore; and Louis



Scott Johnson of Muskogee serves in the mixed doubles event



Men's open doubles teams: L. Hawzipta; E. Hawzipta; Jerry Bales of Tulsa; and Bruce Harjo of Edmond

Maskoke clothing show



Lesley Harjo of Okmulgee prepares to model his East-West stickball game "diaper" and collar—made by Betsy Taryole of Henryetta—with encouragement from his grandmother, Sheila Harjo of Okmulgee



Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Sunny Roberts of Okemah models a patchwork jacket made by Charlie Coker, far right, of Schulter



Norma Jean Pinney of Pawhuska models her pre-removal Muscogee women's broadcloth wrap-around skirt and cotton blouse made by Jay McGirt of Oklahoma City

photos by Gerald Wofford



Rita Williams holds her granddaughter Mehenwa Williams—both of Wilson community—as she models a contemporary jumper made by show mistress of ceremonies Jo Ann Skaggs of Mescalero, N.M.



Jerry Tahsequah of Okmulgee models a long shirt made by Skaggs as she offers its description



Roger Barnett of Bristow models his pre-removal Muscogee men's clothing made by McGirt



Bethany Harley of Okmulgee, M. Williams, Eco Barnett of Bristow, Legend Taylor of Henryetta, and Alaysia Williams of Wilson community model Indian clothing for the clothing show publicity photo.



Alexander Posey Literary Festival coordinator Joy Harjo watches as Kelsey Marie Proctor reads her elementary fiction entry "The Dream Machine" which was awarded outstanding

Blue

Blue
Sky
Full of clouds
Sometimes dark
Blue

Navajo

Near Arizona
Ate corn and hens
Very strong
Ate buffalo
Joins in dances
Often women weaved

Brittany Michelle Roothame



Brittany Michelle Roothame reads her elementary poetry entries, "Blue" and "Navajo"

Life's Gifts

Infancy in the embrace of a father,
a father there...there with
my eyes closed, and my eyes open.
As an interested child near the side
of a teaching great-grandma. One whose
presence was remembered yet, taken
for granted. Almost a hundred years
she did live.

And a father that was there,
to be there no more.

What a day! Once every year, shared
only with one other. The true reason
to love. A brother; I cared.

A cousin so long gone. She is my opposite for
what we dare.

How I hated to share, with one
like she. Love was there. It had to be.

And then my father, found
to be nowhere.

An aunt, passed 3 years now.
Left behind 3 beauties. Who know
not where they are, nor why.

And then my father...how
I miss.

And my close brother, of child
memories--best friend.

A grandma -- never to be overtaken.
Excitement filled my entire being with
her and grandfather.

Oh, dear Grandfather!! My favorite
by far. A stroke did take his speech
and legs, but his love for me was
nearly eternity.

Wow, was that I? With babe
and brother and barely tied shoes?
And there, my father.

Knowledge of him, and where;
tears run straight, straight into, a
puddle of love. Echoes of faith and
tradition will always be my way back.
Back to life. Life of love and
freedom.

Life that God--did grant,
to give hope when there is times
like these. And no way else to please.

Sarah Lena Sands

Alexander Literary



Harjo reads Alyssa Narcomey

Muscogee s

Elementary poetry

- Ashley Elizabeth Harjo—outstanding—Liberty Mounds Elementary, fourth grade
- Morgan A. Harjo, Liberty Mounds Elementary, fourth grade
- Brittany Michelle Roothame, Liberty Mounds Elementary, third grade

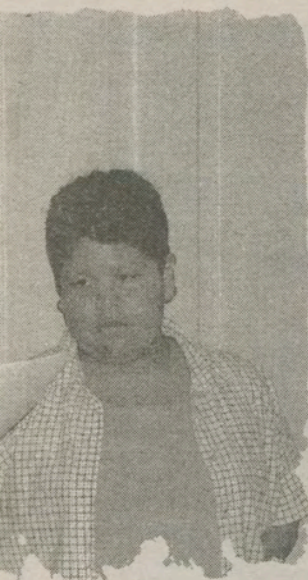
Middle School Poetry

- Erin Marie Floyd, Clayton Middle School, Salt Lake City, Utah, eighth grade



Pictured, left to right, front row are student writers: Roothame; Kelsey Marie Proctor; and Alyssa Narcomey. Back row are festival judge, poet, play wright, and community activist: Joy Harjo; Craig Womack, festival judge

lder Posey Festival



elementary fiction entry

udent honorees

Elementary fiction

- Kelsey Marie Proctor—outstanding—C.E. Gray Elementary, Bixby, second grade
- Alyssa Narcomey, Thomas Elementary, Holdenville, fifth grade

High school fiction

- Jacob Thomas Floyd—outstanding—East High School, Salt Lake City, Utah, 11th grade
- Sarah Lena Sands, Okemah High School, 11th grade



—Morgan A. Harjo; Ashley E. Harjo; Brittany Michelle Narcomey; and back—Annette Arkeketa, festival Vincent Mendoza, festival judge and author; Sam a, educator, and author; and Sarah Lena Sands.

Trail of Tears

*Suddenly you turn around
And your whole life has changed.
Everything you have known
Has all been rearranged.*

*My story begins
As a life ends.
My people's lives end
As Georgia begins.*

*Someone must lose for someone to win.
A vicious cycle of power and gain,
Our lives were getting rougher.
Our hope was starting to drain.*

*My father was chief of the Creek Indian tribe,
His family remembers and mourns his loss.
I am his daughter, Rebecca,
Child of William McIntosh.*

*My father died to help his people,
Suffering grief and sorrow.
To give future generations
A hope for a better tomorrow.*

*And so we began the trip out West,
The fighting finally ends.
But when we got to the new land,
Those who brought us were not our friends.*

*The hardships we suffered to get there,
The years of trouble we spent.
All our hopes and dreams left us,
The moment we were sent.*

*Many died that winter,
Children, men, women
But most of all, our spirit died,
And our trust for men.*

Erin Marie Floyd

See page 17 to read
other awarded student entries



Harjo accompanies her reading of "Eagle Prayer" with her saxophone

Springtime

*Rainbows are pretty and they have
lots of colors.
A rainbow shows when the rain
stops.
Flowers are beautiful in spring.
They bloom in
different colors: red, blue, green,
pink, purple,
and yellow!
Kites are in the air. Kites are big
and pretty.
They are high in the sky.
Easter is a fun holiday. It is a time
to hunt eggs.
People dress in special clothes.
The sun is bright and it can shine
on the green
grass. It is time to plant gardens
and time for
baby animals to be born.
Springtime*

Morgan A. Harjo



Morgan A. Harjo reads her elementary poetry entry, "Springtime"

Horseshoes and volleyball



Kevin Harjo of Bixby concentrates on the ringer as Al Wilson of Morris watches



Lee Ann Jack of Hanna prepares to throw her horseshoe; Jo Ann Jack of Hanna is pictured in the background



Joe Grayson of Stilwell after the release

*horseshoes photos by Stephanie Barnett
volleyball photos by Gerald Wofford*



J. Jack's horseshoe in flight; L. Jack is pictured far left



Festival volleyball



Ronny Duncan of "Impact" prepares to slam one on the "Crimson Crew"

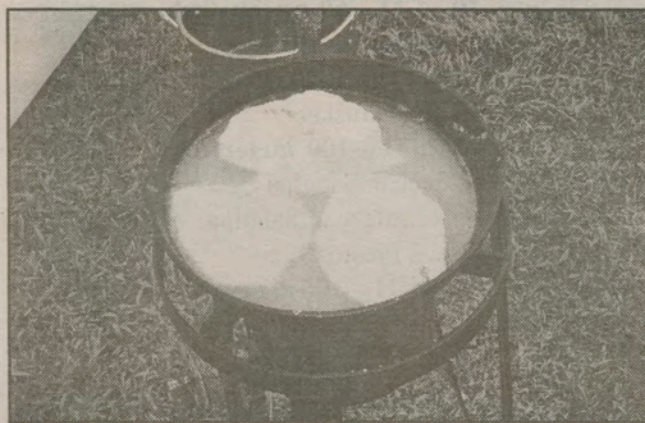


Festival volleyball

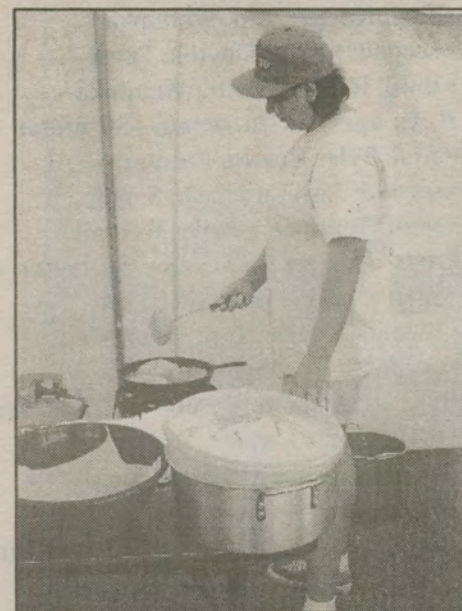
Frybread and Indian car contests



Diana Billie of Okmulgee carefully turns her first place winning frybread



A thing of beauty...



Jo Fixico of Sapulpa took second place honors for her frybread

photos Gerald Wofford



Gloria Lowe of Tulsa joyfully pats her bread



Lighthorse officers and tribal royalty lead in the parade of Indian cars



Second Chief A.D. Ellis takes on the difficult task of judging the frybread contest



Second Chief Ellis adds the final touches to his Indian car

Creek Nation Junior Olympics results

Twenty-one teams participated in the 2000 junior olympics. Approximately 327 participants, ages 6 to 15, competed in the eight track and field events.

Boys ages six to seven—30 meter dash

- first: Lance Saldivor, Sapulpa
- second: Clayton Clark, Preston
- tie: Cherokee Howell, Preston and Landon Humble, Okfuskee

Girls ages six to seven—30 meter dash

- first: Kaylee Britt, Wetumka
- second: Mason Slayton, Tulsa
- third: Regan Osborn, Wetumka

Boys ages six to seven—50 meter dash

- first: Tyler Brown, Preston
- second: Josh Littlebear, Sapulpa
- third: Terrance Yahola, Wetumka

Girls ages six to seven—50 meter dash

- first: Danielle Bear, Okfuskee
- second: Kaylee Britt, Wetumka
- third: Mason Slayton, Tulsa

Boys ages six to seven—softball throw

- first: Shawn Perkins, Morris
- second: Josh Littlebear, Sapulpa
- third: Drae Moore

Girls ages six to seven—softball throw

- first: Danielle Bear, Okfuskee
- second: Mindy Scott, Okfuskee
- third: Mason Slayton, Tulsa

Boys ages six to seven—400 meter relay

- first: Sapulpa
- second: Morris
- third: Dustin

Girls ages six to seven—400 meter relay

- first: Wetumka
- second: Dustin

Boys ages eight to nine—50 meter dash

- first: Josh Colbert, Glenpool
- second: Robby Bear, Okfuskee
- third: Grant Proctor, Individual

Girls ages eight to nine—50 meter dash

- first: Kyra Underwood, Wetumka
- second: Kristin Fish, Wetumka
- third: Tiesha Scott, Okfuskee

Boys ages eight to nine—100 meter dash

- first: Robby Bear, Okfuskee
- second: Josh Colbert, Glenpool
- third: Bobby Bear, Okfuskee

Girls ages eight to nine—100 meter dash

- first: Kathryn Sunny, Preston
- second: Kristin Fish, Wetumka
- third: Kayla Wilson, Muskogee

Boys ages eight to nine—200 meter dash

- first: Bobby Bear, Okfuskee
- second: Bruce Kaulaity, Anadarko
- third: Tye Stacey, Okfuskee

Girls ages eight to nine—200 meter dash

- first: Kelly Leggett, Skiatook
- second: Kayla Wilson, Muskogee
- third: Melanie Thomas, Morris

Boys ages eight to nine—softball throw

- first: Rexton Haley, Seminole Nation
- second: Micheal Evans, Weleetka
- third: Robby Bear, Okfuskee

Girls ages eight to nine—softball throw

- first: Ravin Stallin, Wetumka
- second: Tiesha Scott, Okfuskee

- third: Taylor Jessepe, Kickapoo/Kansas

Boys ages eight to nine—400 meter relay

- first: Dro
- second: Morris
- third: Skiatook

Girls ages eight to nine—400 meter relay

- first: Wetumka
- second: Seminole Nation
- third: Preston

Boys ages 10 to 11—50 meter dash

- first: A.J. Wilson, Morris
- second: Chris Neal, Preston
- third: Brett Littlebear, Sapulpa

Girls ages 10 to 11—50 meter dash

- first: Lauren Watson, Skiatook
- second: Allyson Leggett, Skiatook
- third: Kristy Hill, Okfuskee

Boys ages 10 to 11—100 meter dash

- first: Brett Littlebear, Sapulpa
- second: Patrick Littlebear, Sapulpa
- third: Chris Neal, Preston

Girls ages 10 to 11—100 meter dash

- first: Racheal Johnson, Wetumka
- second: Allyson Leggett, Skiatook
- third: Lauren Watson, Skiatook

Boys ages 10 to 11—200 meter dash

- first: Patrick Littlebear, Sapulpa
- second: Brett Littlebear, Sapulpa
- third: Troy Harcrow, Morris

Girls ages 10 to 11—200 meter dash

- first: Allyson Leggett, Skiatook
- second: Lauren Watson, Skiatook
- third: Kristy Hill, Okfuskee

Boys ages 10 to 11—hoopshoot

- first: Wesley Hale, Kickapoo/Kansas
- second: Steven Ramirez, Kickapoo/Kansas
- third: Josh Bible, Morris

Girls ages 10 to 11—hoopshoot

- first: Cidney Switch, Kickapoo/Kansas
- second: Madison Bolton, Glenpool
- third: Brittany Colbert, Glenpool

Boys ages 10 to 11—400 meter relay

- first: Morris
- second: Preston
- third: Okfuskee

Girls ages 10 to 11—400 meter relay

- first: Wetumka
- second: Okfuskee
- third: Kickapoo Nation

Boys ages 12 to 13—100 meter dash

- first: Tyler Sutterfield, Preston
- second: Trevor Taryole, Turtle Tracksters
- third: Brian Cully, Okfuskee

Girls ages 12 to 13—100 meter dash

- first: Stephanie Randall, Kickapoo/Kansas
- second: Carrie Thompson, Glenpool
- third: Melanie Thomas, Morris

Boys ages 12 to 13—200 meter dash

- first: Grayhawk King, Okfuskee
- second: Brian Culley, Okfuskee
- third: Tyler Sutterfield, Preston

Girls ages 12 to 13—200 meter dash

- first: Natasha Supernaw, Skiatook
- second: Carrie Thompson, Glenpool
- third: Cherry Watson, Skiatook

Boys ages 12 to 13—400 meter dash

- first: Grayhawk King, Okfuskee
- second: Trevor Taryole, Turtle Tracksters

- third: Ross Everett, Morris

Girls ages 12 to 13—400 meter dash

- first: Carrie Thompson, Glenpool
- second: Natasha Supernaw, Skiatook
- third: Andrea Kaywood, Cleveland

Boys ages 12 to 13—hoopshoot

- first: Frank Lewis, Weleetka
- second: J.R. Collishim, Sapulpa
- third: Aaron Switch, Kickapoo/Kansas

Girls ages 12 to 13—hoopshoot

- first: Elisa Bezzell, Muskogee
- second: Germaine Pochoma, Kickapoo/Kansas
- third: Shannon Nuttle, Okfuskee

Boys ages 12 to 13—400 meter relay

- first: Okfuskee
- second: Preston
- third: Morris

Girls ages 12 to 13—400 meter relay

- first: Sapulpa
- second: Skiatook
- third: Kickapoo/Kansas

Boys ages 14 to 15—100 meter dash

- first: Michael West, Turtle Tracksters
- second: Ryan Taryole, Turtle Tracksters
- third: Curtis Beartusk, Sapulpa

Girls ages 14 to 15—100 meter dash

- first: Chace McCloskey, Henryetta
- second: Julianne Hooper, Kickapoo/Kansas
- third: Terra Beaver, Morris

Boys ages 14 to 15—200 meter dash

- first: Ryan Taryole, Turtle Tracksters
- second: Jacob Kent, Prairieband Pottawatomie
- third: Garron Brown, Okfuskee

Girls ages 14 to 15—200 meter dash

- first: Terra Beaver, Morris
- second: Chace McCloskey, Henryetta
- third: Billie Silverhorn, Preston

Boys ages 14 to 15—400 meter dash

- first: Glen West, Weleetka
- second: Theron Richards, Weleetka
- third: Jacob Kent, Prairieband Pottawatomie

Girls ages 14 to 15—400 meter dash

- first: Terra Beaver, Morris
- second: Julianne Hooper, Kickapoo/Kansas
- third: Isha Thompson, Glenpool

Boys ages 14 to 15—hoopshoot

- first: Dan Wilson, Morris
- second: Michael West, Turtle Tracksters
- third: Nate Switch, Kickapoo/Kansas

Girls ages 14 to 15—hoopshoot

- first: Tamara Tallbear, Anadarko
- second: Julianne Hooper, Kickapoo/Kansas
- third: Sheena Billy, Dustin

Boys ages 14 to 15—400 meter relay

- first: Okfuskee
- second: Sapulpa

Girls ages 14 to 15—400 meter relay

- first: Morris
- second: Okfuskee
- third: Dustin

Boys ages 14 to 15—1 mile run

- first: Michael West, Turtle Tracksters
- second: Jacob Kent, Pottawatomie/Kansas
- third: James Nuttle, Okfuskee

Girls ages 14 to 15—1 mile run

- first: Billie Silverhorn, Preston
- second: Shannon Nuttle, Okfuskee
- third: Carrie Thompson, Glenpool

A Marvelous View

Jacob Thomas Floyd

In the sudden fear of everything around me, it was a matter of time, that somewhere in my story, was to be inserted a nose bleeding profusely in the back seat of a car. I got the luxury some two hours outside Los Angeles. With nose pinched, I looked up from the floorboard at the police officer, still asleep, his head and mouth covered, leaning against the film covered window. I looked up and all I saw were desolate hills.

I had not seen the driver since the incident four hours ago. I just saw the back of a neck covered by a long head of straight, dark brown hair. The car pulled to the side, and the car stopped roughly, however not surprising for a car of its type, or the fact that the driver didn't have the keys. I wondered how you stop a car

when you didn't have the keys to start it in the first case.

"We're here," a low voice said, and the man confidently got out of his seat, pulled out a shotgun, and walked back to the seat behind him. Opening the door the police officer awoke as he fell into the man's stomach. The man pointed at me as the handcuffed officer turned around for a second, his eyes an uncertain mirror. And at that time I knew his fear was the same as mine...

Opening the door the police officer awoke as he fell into the man's stomach. The man pointed at me as the handcuffed officer turned around for a second, his eyes an uncertain mirror. And at that time I knew his fear was the same as mine...

cuffed officer turned around for a second, his eyes an uncertain mirror. And at that time I knew his fear was the same as mine; I believed. I followed him out of the same car door, and got out onto the shoulder of the only highway between Los Angeles and the next bastion of lights.

After the shotgun man had herded us into what looked like an old farm, into some small, but dark branches that I supposed could be trees, we sat down.

"I'm John," the man said, setting the shotgun near his hip. The officer started making gagging noises. I looked over at him in his dark suit, with, what I noticed, were some discolorations. The man got up, taking his shotgun with him, and

please see **A MARVELOUS VIEW**..., page 19

The Dream Machine

Kelsey Marie Proctor

My little sister called the shower a dream machine. I knew that it wasn't called that, but when she really, really wanted me to take a bath, I just said, "Sydney, I'm taking a shower in the dream machine." I remember the night I took my first shower. Sydney didn't know what it was. So that's where I got the name, Dream Machine. She actually thought that there were real dreams in there! But anytime she told me to catch her dream, my mom just covered her mouth and said, "Shh..." I sort of giggled. The

only thing I didn't like about the shower was that well, you have to stand up the whole time! When night came, I did my violin practice and everything else that I had to do—everything except shower. My Mother said, "Kristy! Kristy Nicole Thrasher do you hear me?"

"Yes, Mom! Quit rushing me for Pete's sake! I'm getting off my clothes!" I said as I walked into the bathroom and turned on my shower water. My sister Sydney was already

see **THE DREAM MACHINE**..., page 18

Alyssa Narcomey

Once upon a time, there was a little girl named Jonna. She was a nice girl. Her sister, Clair, thought something had happened to Jonna, but no one believed her, not even her own parents.

Clair tried telling the police about her sister, Jonna, missing. The police never did anything to help find her. A week went by and Jonna was still missing. So, Claire

went out to seek Jonna on her own. She put flyers up everywhere in town. Another week had went by and still nothing. Her parents told her to give up the search for Jonna, but she was not going to give up that easily. She tried to convince her parents to help her look for Jonna, but they said no.

Claire thought there was only one place left to search, the woods. She decided she would come

back in the morning to search for Jonna.

When she awoke the next morning Claire heard someone at the door. When she answered the door standing before her was a young girl. The young said to Claire, "I think I'm the one you've been looking for." Claire was astonished when she had heard what the young girl had said to her. So, she

see **Alyssa**..., page 18

Life without Guidance

Sarah Lena Sands

I am about to embark onto a new territory. Which hopefully yields fruit and crops. And beasts that will bring to my people good meat and useful instruments. This land is foreign to my feet. But my spirit has traveled there many times in beautiful dreams of comfort. Although my people do not know of this sacred place, it is within their hearts, like fire in dry grass. They yearn to be happy and work the land. Their minds move like fish of the river. Always looking for knowledgeable food. To devour into consciousness and soak up the energy to live another long, painful day.

My story takes place in the heart of a young boy. Where the mountains are all small and the sun is always up.

This boy was to be a man within the next circle of the moon. And his time to leave the people was heavy upon his family's hearts.

As he walked away from his loved ones he remembered the many things his father had told him. And all the little things his other had done for him. He also longed to look back at his young brother, Yahv. But his honor was at stake, if he showed any sign of fear. Out across the grass field he took his path. Thinking now of how he would stop his feet from walking with pride, the sun slowly set at his back.

Night was upon him soon and his stomach churned for the weight of food. Many times had he stayed away from home, and was able to ration his dried meat. But now he had only left with clothing and blade. He was told of the old ways of hunt. But his elders had not shown him what the words meant. For no one practiced these ways anymore. They simply were given their supplies and homes, and ways to lead the "right" life. They did not bother with the old ways anymore. So he was not taught how to hunt or pray for good game. The first two nights he went without help from earth.

Throughout the following three days he meditated on life, and the great circles of life. How he fit into each one. And how he had come to this journey he was now on. One day during his meditation a strong, handsome *efv'* walked up in his path. With eyes of light blue; so blue that they looked like the great cold rivers. The young one called him Tur'wv. The *efv'* knew many things about the strange land the boy was in. But the boy did not know how to listen to the beasts of the earth. The elders had not told him of their knowledge.

During the 4th night Tur'wv left his sight and did

please see **LIFE WITHOUT GUIDANCE**..., page 18

Horses

Ashley Elizabeth Harjo

I like horses.

Horses can run fast and gallop.
Some are barrel racing horses and
go to rodeos.

Black, white, tan, brown, grey.

Horses are different colors.

Spotted horses are pretty.

Some are wild and they can kick.

Some are gentle and like to be petted.

A baby horse is a foal.

It is little, funny, and adorable.

Horses nibble!

I like horses.

The Dream Machine

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asleep. She threw up hours ago. "Icky!" I thought in my head. I knew if my sister was only three years old and I was just about turning six, I should tell her that there's no such thing as a Dream machine. However, I knew that would hurt her feelings, so I didn't tell her. I hopped into the shower. A few minutes later I got out. I dried out my hair...I put on my nightclothes...I combed my hair. Then the last thing I did was brush my teeth. I went upstairs and pulled my covers back and I straightened up my pillows, I turned out my lamp and turned on my Charley Brown night light, and I closed my eyes. I could hear frogs croaking, the wind was whistling, and I could feel my eyes feeling droopier and droopier. Then I heard a howl. "Mother! Mother!" I said scared. "What's that noise?"

"Oh no," my Mother said. "The coyotes are coming! Let me lock the doors tight."

Every summer a stampede of coyotes would come in the fields by our house. Sometimes they would tear screens or jump up and bust some windows. That's what Sydney and I were afraid of the most. In the midsummer when the coyotes would come, Mother would let us go up to the highest room, the attic. We

...I jumped into the shower, turned my water on, and started to wash. I saw a little Daddy Long Leg. I let it on my finger. Then something pulled my foot.... Then somehow I was sucked into the drain!

all would sleep up in the attic. Even Mother would sleep up there because her room was downstairs and the coyotes could jump up and break her windows. Anyway it was better to sleep up in the attic in the midsummer because it was cooler up in the attic. "Good night, kids," said Mother.

"Good night, Mother," Sydney and I said. We pulled back our blankets, straightened our pillows and rested our eyes. The clock ran very slowly, until I woke up at five o'clock in the morning. I heard a window bust, so I ran over to Mother. Sydney was already there. We lay down by Mother and rested for another three hours. Those three hours passed quickly. I felt Mother get out of bed.

"Rise and shine!" she said happily. "I have some good news and some bad news. I'll tell you the bad news first. Some windows were broken by the coyotes."

"Oh no!" I screamed. "Now every night crickets will get in!"

"Oh, no, no, no, no, no, I will call a repairman to fix it," said Mother. "Now for the good news. We have a new TELEVISION SET!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

"Who gave it to us?" I asked.

"Your Aunt Dee sent it to us," said Mother.

"That crazy Aunt Dee," I thought, "so nice. She's so soft hearted."

"Yes, that sister of mine," said Mother.

"But how did she drop it off?" I asked.

Life Without Guidance

continued from page 17

not return for many hours. The boy was weak from travel. And tired soon of berries and roots. Knowing this, the *efv'* walked slowly into the *ue'wv*, one paw then the other. Until he was in up to the mid leg. Dipping a sudden jerk of his neck, he flung a large fish towards the feet of the disbelieving boy. After doing so the *efv'* laid at the boy's feet. The young boy thought, if only I knew how to start a fire to cook this wonderful fish. Soon sticks came tumbling down from a tree. They laid in pile where the boy stood. Looking up he realized that a bird was caught in the branches. In a flash he was up the tree and had freed the bird. The sun was rising now and the boy still had no fire. He found himself alone with a tired dog, a lifeless fish, and a pile of sticks. His thoughts were going, this must not be all. There had to be something bigger than he. So he sat on the ground and closed his eyes and began to speak. He asked of fire and food. But most importantly of all he asked for wisdom. And like a great storm all his wishes were fulfilled. He soon began to rejoice in the great one. He prayed and sang, and prayed some more, then lightening struck the sticks and they became ablaze. Without hesitation he thanked the great one many times over. He shared much of his food with the dog and birds and left a little for the next hunger driven soul. The boy wondered why his elders had not told him of prayer, or animals, or of thanks. These were all great things that helped him to live. How can man be man with out knowing these

Alyssa

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invited her in and asked her a couple of questions.

When Jonna started talking she blurted out what had happened to her. She began by telling her that she had gone to a friend's house, but that she couldn't remember her friend's name. She also told her that they had went to bed at 9 o'clock and when she awoke she wasn't at her friend's house no more. She was in a cold, and dark place. The only light in the room was the light coming in from a small window. A little after an hour a man with a hoarse voice

"She came when you were sleeping. Well, I guess that's it, time for you to bathe," Mother said.

"What for Mommy?" Sydney asked.

"Does anybody know???" Mother asked.

"Oh yeah, now I remember, we're going to Aunt Dee's wedding!" I replied.

"Yep, you're right. So let's get ready!" Mother said.

I ran into the bedroom and I took off all my clothes and everything that I wore in the night. Then I jumped into the shower, turned my water on, and started to wash. I saw a little Daddy Long Leg. I let it on my finger. Then something pulled my foot. "MOM! MOM! COME HERE QUICK!" I tried to shout, but nothing came out of my mouth. It felt like my voice box was gone. Then somehow I was sucked into the drain! Once I thought I was all the way inside the sewer, everything was pitch dark and I couldn't see anything. I sort of whispered to see if my voice was back. It was. So I said, "Hello there! Anybody home?"

All that answered back was my echo. Then I was coming toward some light. I jumped on my feet and

things? So the young boy turned his direction and headed for home. All the time thinking and thanking and speaking to the earth.

When he reached his home his mother greeted him and said, "You are a man now."

But the boy just shook his head from side to side. His father said, "But you have stayed alive for this time, without anyone to depend on." And the boy shook his head no again. Yahv then asked, "Why are you not a man, then?"

The young man answered, "How can a man live alone? Does he make the beasts? Does he plant all the many plants and trees of the earth? Does man walk alone? No. A man is one who knows there is a greater one than he. To which he always gives thanks. A man knows that the animals were given to him. For him to take care for and respect. And in return they give us life. A man knows that he must care for the young that go out to face the world alone. The ones that no one has shown them the knowledge of the right ways. A man is not a man if he does not pass on his wisdom to the youth, the future. He is simply a boy who has yet to learn."

And so I dream of land where the children listen and old talk. When they are freed from the bondage of unknowing, to fly with birds of wisdom. In this land we will go to one day but only if we help each other and give back as much as we take. This land is foreign to my feet. My spirit has traveled there many times in beautiful dreams of comfort. And it lives within every beat of my heart.

stepped into the room and gave me a plate of food. After I had finished eating the food, the man said to me, "You are here for punishment." Then he asked me, "Do you know what you did to deserve this punishment?" I said, "No, I do not know!" He got angry at me and hit me over the head with something, and when I awoke I couldn't remember a thing! Then I finally escaped to try to find my home.

When Jonna finished telling Claire about what had happened to her, Jonna straightened herself up and picked out an outfit. When Claire saw which one she had picked, she knew right away, that it really was Jonna.

walked toward it. I walked closer and closer to it. Until the light got so bright that I couldn't see. I had to shut my eyes while I was walking toward it. It was like a tunnel of light and you could never get to the end. Until a minute later, I finally got to the end. Then I saw some shops...markets...buildings...motels...houses...cars...trucks...and unusual little tiny people. Then I noticed something...I was little! But my face looked different than the other little people's faces. I walked over to one of the houses. It was an unusual house. I found the doorbell and rang it. A little old lady appeared. "Hello there, young fellow," she said. "You don't look very familiar to me."

What's your name?"

"K...K...Kristy," I said frightened. "Who...who are you?"

"Why everybody should know me. I'm Miss Laten. Miss Pateilia Laten. Your name doesn't quite go with

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A Marvelous View

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He looked at the ground. The man with the shotgun left for a while, and returned with a canteen. He threw it at the cop. The cop drank a little, and then handed it slowly to John. "We better do something about that bleed of yours," John told me. He gave me the water, and I drank, and put some on my nose. Normally I would have been afraid of the germs. But right now I wasn't worried about dying in the long term.

"I remember that, when I was young, we used to run around our house...and me and my brothers would play. But we pretended to have guns. Like in some John Wayne movie, you know. Not with bows, or hunting...but with guns," John said, making his hands invent a gun. He aimed his "gun" around and finally set its sights on something, letting out a "Pop!"

I sat, shocked. The cop was still in too much pain, as I realized as well, that we all were. The sun became brighter, and I could feel that it would only be an hour or two until the sun went down.

"What's your plan now?" the cop asked.

"You guys never stop do you? Trying to make everything seem all right! Back there you guys told me everything I wanted to hear, while in the meantime I could hear the straps of the lethal injection crucifix getting tightened!"

John was pacing in front of the officer waving his shotgun in the air. It was more like a twig now; part of the environment, not the startling object of pain it once was. The sun was bright in reflecting behind us onto everything in front. The hills seemed to have waves on them. It was silent. With John pacing, walking often sitting in front of us, until the first twinge of dark hit my eyes.

"What do you want? What are you waiting for?" the officer asked.

John pointed the gun right at his chest, while his face was nearly pressed against the officer's forehead.

"Hey!" he yelled. The officer jumped. "Hey!" John laughed as he did it again, with the same result. You like these things until you're behind them! That's like all of you people. Also too impatient. When my father was alive he made me work on the farm nine hours a day! Hard work. But it wasn't fast...no, it was slow! It wasn't your Midwest dirt! No, it was clay, red clay. That clay that wouldn't come out of

your jeans, got under your finger nails and drove you crazy. It took time for those crops to come up in that awful soil...if we were lucky. What did you have to do for food? Go down to Safeway? Safeway. "Huh," he laughed, I hoped sensing the irony rather than beginning to become delirious. John walked away, angry, and sat several yards down the small dry creek bed we sat near the top of. The cop inched toward me.

"Guess, you won't help us out with any more bank robberies anymore, Jim?" he asked rhetorically. I was

puzzled because I was, as of right now, no help at all. "Don't worry, we'll get you back, and you'll get that nose fixed. You'll look like Jack Nicholson in Chinatown. You'll be on the news and crud." He finished talking and moved back, laying his head on a rock.

"Why'd you wanna be a cop?" I asked him.

"To protect and serve."

"Nobody's here but me, man. What's your name anyway?"

"Will. I just decided that enforcing fit my life-style," he said, moving back into his earlier position. It was cold all of a sudden. For where I thought he took us, it seemed out of place. John walked back, and squatted in front of us.

"Where you from?" John asked Will.

"Louisiana."

"What you doing over here?" John asked.

"Work...and the sun, I guess."

"What about you?" Will asked.

"Work, Huh. I guess, It's funny, I've never met a person born and raised in L.A., besides the people in the ghettos you know. It just doesn't seem like the right place for a home. Like it's always almost falling into the ocean. Just not right."

The sun was almost gone. The light was leaving, except for an expiring sun, left to a small tangential arch between two hills. I noticed a small light in the sky, and a larger one, which was brighter.

"You did this to get back at whites, didn't you?" Will asked. I felt suddenly uncomfortable. "No. If I did anything for whites it would be the exact opposite. I don't need your money."

"So, who are you? The Indian Robin Hood?"

"No. Can't an Indian be just as crazy as a white person? Just 'cause I'm Indian don't mean...Actually, I'm saner than you. I bet when you go to the poor part of town you see poor white folks, so you don't care about smashing in their door and throwing them in jail, with the Blacks and Hispanics. You guys even have enough time on your hands to discriminate a Jew. How in the world can you people tell that kinda thing? You guys assume too much."

"Aren't you doing the

same?" I asked.

"Four-hundred years of hell has taught me enough. And you, too, son."

"I didn't kill anyone. I didn't have anything to do with any of that crud," Will responded sharply.

"What about now, white boy? The rich are just richer than ever. Aren't they, boy?"

"Yeah, I guess so," Will said.

"No. They as rich as they always been. We screwed up all the land already by building Sodom on sacred land. This was nobody's land to have rivers

moved so you can have a stupid gambling town with whores, and money whores taking people's money. That's just another four hour drive. Soon as we get to Nevada, boy, we gonna see a lot of lights, all trying to blind you into selling your soul for something. I may

have given my life up in that heist, but I'll be dead before they can take my soul!"

"You know you can't get away with it," Will said.

"You know how I got away? Huh?"

"How?"

"No helicopters. They were too busy on some high speed car chase to put on Fox or something. They

never show the guys that get away. But I guess nobody really ever does." It was silent, besides a few bullfrogs, and various bug sounds. John left, to get wood I assumed. Will was frightened more than ever.

"You know, the longer he keeps us here, and if he moves us tomorrow, like I bet he will, the bigger the chance we're probably gonna get killed."

"That's comforting," I said.

"Your nose is bleeding. Go get the canteen," Will said.

"No."

Will kicked my knee softly and I stood up. John, who was gathering sticks, his back arched over, looked up.

"Don't try anything stupid! I learned how to hear an ant take a leak in 'Nam."

"I just need more water." John paused, as if he were waiting to see if I had the guts. I waked slowly, and then swiftly, to get it over with, walked over and picked up the canteen. John smiled.

"You believe that cop?" John asked. "Probably didn't think you were gonna bust an Indian. I would'a done the same. You learn, my friend, to pretend to help them. Then, 'Pop!'" He laughed.

"What tribe are you?" I asked.

"The tribe of the human race. All us Indians...we have to be one to stay alive."

"Oh," I said, realizing that he might slip at any moment.

"I'm glad I didn't shoot you. Especially since your Indian too, and all."

"You did bust my nose in," I said.

"And the fact that you are blind."

"What?"

"I can tell something about you."

"Well, I'm not."

"You never lie to your captors. My grandfathers learned that."

"You know how some people are color blind...well, sometimes I lose everything. All color. All I see is outlines, and things in black and white."

"No fooling? Like an old movie?"

"Yeah," I said smiling.

"Must be nice. Like living in the golden ages, or whatever they called them. What do they call us now? I mean Indians, if we ever make the news," John asked rhetorically. "You see, I wanted to show them that money was nothing to me. I guess we're called

A Marvelous View

continued from page 19

Indigenous now, or Aborigines? Ain't that what they call them Indians in Australia?"

"Yeah," I tried, but could not see my skin. There was not enough light.

"Thought so."

"You were in Vietnam?"

"Lot of us were. Everyone the government wanted dead. See this scar?" There was a small, but considerably deep dark spot on his arm, which appeared to be a burn mark. "A U.S. fighter plane dropped a bomb right where cop boy is over there. Blew three soldiers away. Two Blacks, one Mexican. You see the whites, they always trying to get rid of people. They tried, and almost got us first. Then the Blacks. They killed their leaders, Luther King, all them. Tried to kill them off. But it didn't work. They really messed up in Vietnam. The Asians during World War II. Then the Hispanics. Tried to stop them from reading and writing. Now, after all that, I think it's back to us."

"I don't think..."

"That's the problem," he said. His voice ran silent for a while. Then he said, in a more sane tone: "There was a white buffalo born a few years back. They said that it was a sign that we'd come to power again. That we would have our lands, our people." He paused, frustrated. "But now they say it's turning brown."

"Ah!" I said, and tripped over something as I moved my right leg trying to move closer to him.

"What?" he yelled. He ran over toward me. I was all right, only still sore all over from the occurrences of the afternoon.

"I can't see!" I told him.

"You're probably bleeding too much." He dropped the wood and called toward Will.

"Hey, whitey? Come help your friend here!" He pretended to kick my stomach. "Sorry, we got to keep the act going," he whispered.

I crawled toward a blob of black. Will, still hand-

cuffed, turned around.

"Hold onto them," he said.

"It'll cut you!"

"Do it," Will said.

I was panicking. I could not see a thing, and of all times...now! I held on as he pulled me with them. It reminded me of the first time that I tried to water ski. I was up in the lake for twenty-four seconds. Good bull riding time, but nothing for water. I think I dislocated my shoulder.

"What'd he say?" Will asked.

"I...I can't see!" I repeated.

Will seemed to expect a non-answer, and I noticed that he had been slowly digging into the cuffs in the rock as he pretended to be sleeping. He was making some noticeable difference.

John looked up onto the road. He carried the pile of wood toward the meadow. He dropped them, and quickly returned to the other side of the road. Several minutes later I saw a dark figure dragging something. John knelt down for a while, and all was quiet. Then a flicker of light. A flame had started and grew. I began to see two portraits. The thing he was dragging was a deer. Dead. Hit by a car. It was encircled in the fire. The second figure I saw was John. He was walking toward the dry creek bed in front of us. He scooped something up, and rubbed it on his face. He walked back toward the fire. His white silhouette was as the previous day, a quasi-insane religious demonstration. My eyes were getting used to the light. And my blindness was fading into sight. I could see a red Venus, in the shallow night sky. On the ground, John had two large sticks tied to both his arms...pulled back tight. His arms looked like an eagle, tied to a tree. He reached toward the sky, filled with bright stars.

"Father!" What has become of us? What has be-

come of the land? Here I stand arms tied behind my back, and will you see me? Will you see us? I am the dead warrior who gave his life for the war to keep fighting. Should I have given it up for peace?" He paused. "No! I shouldn't. Father, they took my house! My wife is gone from me! Can't you see us? Can't you see me? Here I lay tied. My tongue is in notches, my heart in knots, as the veins of these branches are my arms! Hear me!" He suddenly pulled his arms down, breaking the branches, freeing himself. He looked for a long time at something. Then he put his hands in a fist above his head. He reached back for something.

I saw a flash come from Will's arms. John fell forward slowly. His face gave a smile. Then fell in front of the dead deer, the flames dancing red and orange around its body, half covered in beautiful spots of black on brown; the other in the

darkness of the shadows. I thought for sure that I saw another one, alive, behind it.

"Why did you shoot him?" I demanded.

"I have never shot anyone before." Will fell over in exhaustion.

"Why?"

"He was pulling out a gun! Didn't you see that!"

"It was a stick!"

"It was a gun!" he yelled. "Let's go."

He stood up and pulled on my arm. I stayed on the ground.

"I could see the lights before you shot him."

"What?" Will asked.

Then, I realized, that in my eyes. In my view, in all of my life, every single buffalo had been white. I stared at the red pool of blood, from my broken nose.

"There was a white buffalo born a few years back. They said that it was a sign that we'd come to power again. That we would have our lands, our people." He paused, frustrated. "But now they say it's turning brown."

The Dream Machine

continued from page 18

our town. Where are you from?" Miss Laten asked.

"I'm not from here. I'm from the top of the ground, if this is the top of the ground," I explained.

"Oh, so you're saying that you're from the Mortal World. We all used to be from the Mortal World, too. We got sucked from the showers, too, just like you did from a Daddy Long Leg, didn't you?" Miss Laten asked.

"Well, yes. How did you know?" I asked.

"Like I told you, we used to be from the Mortal World, too. Why don't you stay a few hours and I'll introduce you to the mayor," Miss Laten said.

"By the way," I asked, "how long will I stay here and what's the name of this town?"

"Oh, so you're saying that you're from the Mortal World. We all used to be from the Mortal World, too. We got sucked from the showers, too, just like you did from a Daddy Long Leg, didn't you?"

"Well, you'll stay here as long as your shower lasts and you could stay here 5 seconds, 5 minutes, 5 hours, 5 years, 500 years, 5,000 years, 500,000 years and that would only be 5 minutes in the Mortal World.

Our time is a lot different that the Mortal World," Miss Laten explained.

"So you're saying that I could stay here as long as I want?" I asked.

"Yes, you could. But you can only leave when the clock lands on a 5," Miss Laten said.

"Okay, so I'll stay for 5 hours. Now my other question. What's the name of this town?" I asked.

Miss Laten answered, "Well, people call it DREAM LAND for short. But it's really called DREAM MACHINE LAND. They have real dreams in this town. We all got sucked from our showers from the Daddy Long Leg just like you. I have been told that when

you first come, you look different. But soon, you'll get over it. Go ahead, come on in. I'll fix you some tea. But first let me go and change my clothes. In a whiff, she came back with a 50s dress on. It had a cat on it with a sparkling collar and the skirt was a pretty hot pink.

"You look very nice, Miss Laten," I said. "But what's the special occasion for?" Then she pointed her index finger to the door. I thought that meant get out of the house. So I said, "What did I say?" I was very confused. I am only 5 years old and I don't even know how to spell.

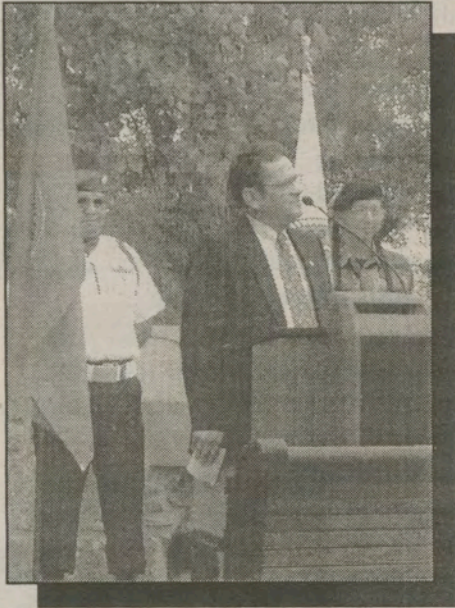
To be continued

Editor's note: *The Muscogee Nation News* does not routinely publish poetry or short stories. Because our staff feels that aspiring young writers should be encouraged, we have dedicated six pages of this issue to the writings of Muscogee students honored at the Alexander Posey Literary Festival. There was not enough space to publish the entirety of Kelsey Marie Proctor's "The Dream Machine." The remainder of her story will be published in the August issue of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Fort Smith National Historic Site

Grand reopening

June 24



Muscogee Nation Second Chief A.D. Ellis addresses the crowd during the dedication of the Trail of Tears Overlook located on the east bank of the Arkansas. Ellis is flanked by Choctaw Nation Color Guard Member Herbert Jessie, left, and Muscogee Nation Honor Guard Member Vern Courtwright, right.



Second Chief Ellis pictured beside the Muscogee Nation's contribution to the Trail of Tears Overlook exhibit.



Second Chief A.D. Ellis addresses the crowd during the grand reopening ceremony for the fort.

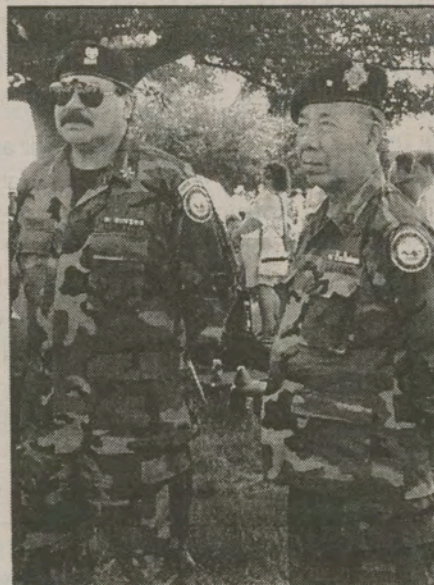


Fort Smith National Historic Site

photos by Stephanie Barnett



Fort Smith Park Ranger Tom Wing presents Ellis with a copy of the Muscogee panel which is part of the Trail of Tears Overlook exhibition. The panel may be viewed in the main foyer of the Solomon McCombs Executive Office (administrative) Building, tribal capitol complex, also.



Muscogee Nation Honor Guard Members Loy Thomas and Smiley Barnett



Presenting the tribal colors were: Bennie John, Chickasaw; Kenneth Winchester, Cherokee; Bill Quincy, Chickasaw; Herbert Jessie, Choctaw; Johnny Asbury, Muscogee; Bill Spencer, Seminole; and Jimmy James, Chickasaw.

Education

Girl receives most valuable player for softball

MORRIS—Morris seventh grader Bettina Beaver has received her second most valuable player award for 12 and under fastpitch softball.

She is the pitcher for the "Roadrunners C.B.M." team coached by Kimball Potts and Charles Spurlock.

The roadrunners will be competing in a regional tournament in Bentonville, Ark. in July. The team has won two first place trophies and one second place trophy this year.

She is the daughter of Tina Tarpalechee and the sister of Sonya Tarpalechee.

Beaver is the granddaughter of the late Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalechee of Okmulgee.



Beaver

Texas student receives academic awards

GODLEY, Texas—Ten year old Shanda Campbell received many academic awards at the completion of her fourth grade year at Godley Elementary.

Campbell received: the "Gold Lamp of Knowledge" six out of six weeks; honor roll; highest academic average; outstanding achievement in music; national science competition; the president's outstanding academic achievement award; and flexibility, chuckles, and humming awards.

She is the daughter of Danny and Cindy Campbell of Godley, Texas.

Campbell is the granddaughter of: Tom and Lillie Killingsworth Thomas of Meeker; the late Stanley Campbell; and Jim and Helen Hart of Checotah.

She is the great-granddaughter of the late Bryan and Naomi Riley Killingsworth, Checotah.

Shanda is a descendent of the Bear and Raccoon clans.



Campbell

Okemah girl wins gold and silver in tumbling

DEWAR—Kaitlyn Factor won a gold medal in tumbling in the girls two year old sub-beginner division at her first tumbling meet held in April.

Factor is a member of the "McIntosh Tumblers" coached by Sonya Lytch and "Spook" McIntosh.

Factor also won a silver medal on the double mini trampoline in the girls two to three year old beginner division.

She is the daughter of Daniel and Ellie Factor.

Her maternal grandparents are Elliot Barnett and Della Proctor, both of Okmulgee.



Factor

Her maternal great-grandparents are the late Judy Proctor, Hanna, and the late Rev. Austin and Mamie Barnett, Eufaula.

Her paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah.

Her paternal great-grandparents are Wilson and Ina Hicks of Okemah.

She belongs to the Deer Clan.

Citizen receives highest award in Boy Scouts

HOUSTON—In June a court of honor was held by Boy Scout Troop 599 to honor Danny Grant's attainment of the highest award in Boy Scouts—Eagle Scout.

In addition to earning 22 badges, he also received the world conservation award and the Boy Scouts of America Snorkeling Award.

For his eagle project, Grant oversaw the construction and placement of eight wood duck nesting boxes in the Barker Reservoir. Working with the Army Corps of Engineers and volunteers, this project totalled 105 service hours.

Grant is a sophomore at Strake Jesuit Preparatory School where he is a member of the cross country team. He is also a member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church and the Clan Mackintosh of North America.

He is the son of Michael and Peggy Grant of Houston, Texas. He is the great-great-great-great grandson of Chief William McIntosh.



Grant

Norman girl starts at first base for Timberwolves

NORMAN—Sixteen year old Jessica Hale, a junior at Norman North High School, has played on the varsity fast and slow pitch softball team since her freshman year.

Hale's position was changed to first base after playing in the outfield for two years for the Timberwolves.

At the end of the 1999 season the team won the regional playoffs held at Noble. They defeated Noble, then Oklahoma City Capitol Hill in back to back games. Going into state they were rated fourth, but finished the year with a loss to the Muskogee Roughers.

Hale is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Brent Hale Jr. of Norman.

She is the paternal granddaughter of Brent and Bernice Harjo Hale of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Ted and Barbara Dailey of Oilton and Dwayne Wright of Cushing.



Hale

Citizen receives master's degree from Central

EDMOND—Paul Jerome Hess graduated from The University of Central Oklahoma recently.

Hess received his master's degree in education in industrial safety. He was on the dean's honor roll for maintaining a 3.75 grade point average.

He is the son of Paula Hess of Newcastle.

His grandparents are Paul W. and Karen Ray of Paden.

Hess currently works for NCI, a national consulting firm with an emphasis on safety.



Hess

please see **EDUCATION...**, page 23

Muscogee Nation Head Start centers hold graduation exercises

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start centers held graduation exercises for children who will transition to kindergarten in the fall.

Graduation ceremonies were held on May 16 at Yeager and Jenks respective Head Start centers. Okmulgee held its ceremony on May 18 at East Central Electric Company in Okmulgee. Checotah held its ceremony on May 20 at Checotah High School Auditorium.

"The parents did a terrific job of planning, decorating, and assuring the success of these events and their assistance was greatly appreciated," Pat Wind, Muscogee Nation Head Start Manager, said. Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver was the guest speaker at the Yeager center. Byar Beaver, Checotah and Eufaula Head Start centers' supervisor, was the guest speaker for the Checotah graduation exercises.

"Parents, thank you, from all the staff, for the privilege of teaching your children this past year. They will surely be missed and we wish them success and happiness in the future," Wind said.

Yeager, left to right, front row—Carlos Sierra; Wyatt Jones; Kyle Landreth; Charlie Driggers; Bryce Peace; middle—Tamara Huff; Taylor Griggs; Darrell Byerly; Katelyn Bowen; Rebekah Bear; Caleb Franks; back—Gregory Bray; Theodore Berry; Benjerman Jewell; Cameron Berry; Dylan Armstrong; and Dakota Fish. Sonia Bishop, teacher's aide, and Mona Hickerson, teacher, are pictured back left and right.



Yeager, left to right, front row—Felicia Harjo; Derrick Williams; Kylie Oliver; Desmond Lamey; Zachary Smith; Clint Davis; middle—Dakota Earls; Catherine Drummond; Blake Harjo; Chancie Johnston; Darton Florie; Alyssa Allen; back—Chekota Medlock; Brooklyn Garvin; Jaylin Givens; Skye Poafpybitty; Ryan Moore; and Damian King. Sara Moppin, teacher's aide, and Esther Morgan, teacher, are pictured back left and right.



Education

continued from page 22

Girl selected as Indian education princess

LAWRENCE, Kan.—Kara Hicks was recently selected as the Lawrence Indian Education Princess for 2000-2001. She was honored at the Lawrence Indian Youth Powwow held in April.

Hicks is nine years old and attends Broken Arrow Elementary in Lawrence. She is the daughter of Curtis Hicks of Okmulgee and Caroline Hicks of Lawrence.

Her paternal grandparents are Agnes Hicks and Hanson Hicks, both of Okmah.

Her maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Eastman of Oneida, N.Y.



Hicks

Boy graduates from Wilson Head Start program

WILSON—Nicholas Marshall graduated from Wilson head start on May 18th.

Marshall is one of several members of Wilson Head Start's first graduating class.

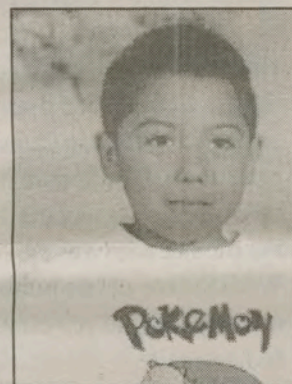
Marshall will attend kindergarten at Wilson School in the fall.

He is the son of Steve and Barbara Marshall of Henryetta.

His grandparents are Wynita and Robert Sullivan of Eufaula.

Marshall is the great-grandson of Polly Marshall of Eufaula.

He has one older brother, Timothy, and two younger sisters, Amber and Courtney.



Marshall

Girl graduates from Mescalero Apache Schools

MESCALERO, N.M.—Jessica Kiah St. John graduated from Mescalero Apache Schools recently.

She was on the honor roll. In basketball St. John was: a four-year letterman; all-district honorable mention; and all tournament.

St. John is the daughter of Albert and Phyllis Platta of Mescalero, N.M. and Herbert St. John of Vian.

Her maternal grandparents are Amos and Lucille Chupco of Seminole.

Joyce St. John of Vian and the late Charles St. John are her paternal grandparents.

She plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. to major in sports medicine.

Okmulgee girl named student of the month

OKMULGEE—Roberta Thomas was awarded student of the month for April at Okmulgee High School.

Among her accomplishments are: honor roll; letter O award; previous student of the month; Oklahoma Girls State delegate; National Honor Society; and attending Close-up in Washington D.C.

Thomas' memberships and activities include: Future Busi-

ness Leaders of America; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; student council; and marching band.

Thomas is also a member of First Baptist Church and also spends her time volunteering. She enjoys snow skiing and horseback riding.

She is the daughter of Lillian and Jim Thomas of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Lillie and the late Jinkie Thomas of Preston.

Thomas' would like to study anthropology at The University of Oklahoma.



Thomas

Girl receives awards from Central Elementary

WETUMKA—Tribal citizen Rebecca Wilbourn received many awards and certificates at the summation of the school year at Central Elementary school.

Wilbourn was awarded the following awards: the president's outstanding academic achievement award; elementary academic bowl district and regional tournaments; outstanding merit for math IV second place; honor roll for maintaining a 3.0 grade point average; outstanding achievement in mathematics; science achievement award; outstanding achievement in language arts; outstanding achievement in spelling; excellent author award; Oklahoma Association for Academic Competition, Inc. Humanities Tournament State Runner-up; and participation award.

She is the daughter of Debbie Wilbourn and Adam Foster of Wetumka.



Wilbourn

Shawnee girl named all-American scholar

SHAWNEE—Tiana Amanda Woodward has been named all-American scholar, nominated to the National Honor Society, and Who's Who Among American High School students.

She was selected by school advisors exclusively based on academic achievement. Her name and biography will appear in its 1999-2000 directory.

Woodward was ranked number one, academically, out of 359 freshmen at Shawnee High School.

She was also on the freshmen basketball team.

She is the daughter of Randy and Verbena Woodward of Shawnee.

She is the granddaughter of the late Robert Deer, Holdenville, and Amanda Fields Deer, Okmulgee.



Woodward

Eufaula dormitory accepting applications

EUFULA—Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is accepting applications for enrollment for the 2000-2001 school term.

Eufaula Dormitory is a Bureau of Indian Affairs funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls in first through 12th grades. Enrollment will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., Aug. 9. Classes will begin on Aug. 10 at Eufaula Public Schools. Enrollment is limited; contact the school for applications.

All new students are required to have: a certificate degree of Indian blood card; Social Security card; up-to-date immunization record; birth certificate; physical; and report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year.

For more information, contact: 1-800-896-3181; or write Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory, 716 Swadley Dr., Eufaula OK 74432.

Memorial scholarship funds 26 youth over five-year period

EUFULA—Over a five-year period, 26 youth have received John Crow IV Memorial Scholarships.

This year's recipients are: Berryhill—Miles Herndon and Corey Deer; Tulsa Webster—Tiger McIntosh; Weleetka—Jennifer Pigeon; Henryetta—Shawn Gobin; Checotah—Kristen Emerson; Dustin—Devan Summers; Wilson—Johnnie Branson; and Pawhuska—Jennifer Standingbear.

"Crow was an outstanding adolescent citizen who exemplified the spirit of honesty and integrity for such a young man," Shelly Crow, his mother, said.

During his short life, he was involved in community leadership, Congressional leadership, and athletics. He also served as a mentor to the younger population in his school. "He displayed maturity beyond his years by caring for those that were in need and were frowned upon by the adolescent society for not being accepted. Through his spirit, that still lives on through his foundation, John continues to assist young people in reaching their dreams," Crow said. The 1st National bank of Henryetta oversees the scholarships for students of American Indian descent that exhibit his beliefs and dedication to helping others.

"Five years have passed since his passing and yet he

continues to touch many hearts in the Oklahoma communities. The John Crow Family would like to salute the scholarship recipients' families and schools for the last five years," she said.

Crow said that her family extends special thanks to those that have contributed to the foundation to keep young Crow's memory alive.

Other recipients include: 1999, Berryhill—Jeff Mushrush; 1998, Berryhill—Jared Inhofe; 1997, Berryhill—Rhiannon Herndon and David Bean; Wagoner—Jessie Crow; Wilson—Gene Branson Jr.; Dustin—Teresa Bear; Henryetta—William Kaler; 1996, Henryetta—Chad Huddleston; Berryhill—Brett Bean and Aaron Eaton; Tulsa Webster—April Batt; 1995, Berryhill—Michael McClendon, John Voss, L.B. Herndon, Jimmy Phillips, and Matt Warren.



Crow

Obituaries-religion

WILLIAM GRAYSON

EDITH, Mo.—Funeral services for William Leroy Grayson were held May 6 at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church with Rev. Lloyd Carter officiating.

He died May 4 at Baptist Regional Health Center in Miami after a short illness. Grayson was born July 19, 1921 at Red Fork to Willie and Beatrice Weaver Grayson.

He was a veteran, having served in the U. S. Air Force. He worked as a pipeline welder for the Williams Brothers, retiring in 1986.

He married Velma Jane Meads on Sept. 10, 1952 in Rogers, Ark. She preceded him in death on Oct. 6, 1992. Grayson was a member of Kelso Faith Baptist Church.

He is survived by: two daughters, Regina Sumler of Afton and Janice Simmons of Springfield, Mo.; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Richard Helms; Jim Helms; Sid Helms; Robert Helms; Earl Wayne Meads; and Rocky Meads.

Interment was at Pleasant Grove Cemetery.

BRYANT JESSE

WEWOKA—Funeral services for Bryant Jesse were held May 5 at Bird Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Bill Hobia officiating.

Wake services were held May 3 at Stout Funeral Home Chapel in Wewoka. All-night wake services were held May 4 at the church.

Jesse died at his Wewoka home on May 1. He was born on Nov. 11, 1920 in Lamar to Willie and Ruth Hartford Jesse.

He was raised in the Seminole County area and attended Sasakwa Schools.

Jesse married Susie Factor on May 19, 1940; she preceded him in death on Feb. 4, 1983.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1940 during World War II; he was discharged in 1944 after being wounded and receiving the Purple Heart.

After his discharge, Jesse went to Okmulgee and attended A&M Tech. He went to work in Oklahoma City at Tinker Field. He retired in 1969 and returned to Wewoka. He was ordained as a minister of Bird Creek Baptist Church on Sept. 17, 1955 and held this position until his death.

He married Lillie Stevenson in May 1985; she preceded him in death on Oct. 11, 1992.

Jesse was a member of the Blue Lodge, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and a board member of Muscogee Nation for 20 years.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; his first wife; his second wife; one son, Willis Jesse; one infant daughter; and two sisters, Juanita Baughn and Kathryn Jones.

He is survived by: his wife, Irene Jesse of the home; one daughter, Johnnie West of Leavenworth, Kan.; one grandson, Perry Lee West Jr. of Weleetka; three great-grandchildren; two foster children, Toney Littleman of Snailsville, N.C. and Victor Harjo of Shawnee; one brother, Larry Jesse of Konawa; and four sisters, Marie Jesse, Sally Frazier, and Bernice

Campbell, all of Konawa, and Brenda Jesse of Hopkinsville, Kent.

Pallbearers were: Larry Jesse; Dale Jesse; David Jesse; Russell Bemo; Jerry Sumka; and Richard Palmer. Honorary pallbearers were: Johnnie Campbell; Tony Frazier; and fellow ministers.

Interment was in Bird Creek Church Cemetery.

LEGUS LEWIS

EUFULA—Funeral services for Legus Lee Lewis were held May 3 at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Raymond Beaver officiating.

He was born to Ellis J. and Ida Marshall Lewis on July 30, 1916 in Wagoner. Lewis attended school in Eufaula. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in November 1942; he was honorably discharged in February 1946. He was of the Baptist faith and attended Okfuskee Baptist Church.

Lewis was preceded in death by: his parents; a sister, Marie Lyons; three brothers, Charlie Lewis, Washie Allen Lewis, and Solus Lewis.

He is survived by: two brothers, Garfield J. Lewis of Eufaula and Glenn D. Lewis of Wichita, Kan.; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Casket bearers were: George Lewis; Francis Lewis; Charlie Dowling; Charles Lewis Jr.; Jackson Lewis; and Taylor Fields.

Burial was at Greenwood Cemetery with military honors given by Creek Nation Honor Guard.

JERRY MINYARD

SALEM—Funeral services for Jerry Wade Minyard were held May 23 at Salem Baptist Church with Rev. Terry Pittman officiating.

He died on May 19 in Tulsa. He, along with his twin brother, Tony, were born on March 24, 1942 to Nealy F. and Lorena Thompson Minyard in Salem community, southeast of Henryetta.

Jerry attended Salem, Graham, and Henryetta schools before moving to Dallas, Texas, at the age of 18. He worked for 30 years with heavy equipment and construction in the Dallas area, returning to Henryetta in 1990. He was baptized at Salem Baptist Church in 1966.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; one sister, Bessie Alene Minyard; his maternal grandparents, Thomas and Martha Sands Thompson; and his paternal grandparents, Charles and Lizzie Minyard.

He is survived by: a son, Stephen Wade Minyard of Dallas, Texas; two daughters, Stephanie Minyard-Rogers of Okmulgee and Ann Michele Haas of Arlington, Texas; brothers, Thomas C. and Anthony Wayne "Tony" Minyard, both of Salem community; three sisters, Lou Jo Kinney of Salem community, Martha Charlena Dunlap of Beggs, and Billie Sue Allen of Tahlequah; three grandsons, Alan William Minyard, Elias Alexander Haas, and Jaboni Minyard; one uncle, Charles D. Minyard of Salem community; and one aunt, Lucille Minyard of Okmulgee.

Casket bearers were: Terry Mordecai; Eddie Wilhite; Mark Wilhite; Jimmy Davis; Donnie Pangle; and Robert Brison.

Interment was at Sonora Cemetery southeast of Henryetta.

SALLIE BEAVER MOORE

OKMULGEE—Funeral services for Sallie Beaver Moore were held June 7 at Big Cussetah Methodist Church.

Moore died on June 3 because of complications caused by cancer and diabetes. She was born on Dec. 3, 1919 to Rev. William H. and Miley Alexander Beaver in Okmulgee County. She was the great-great-granddaughter of the Muscogee Chief Opothleyahola.

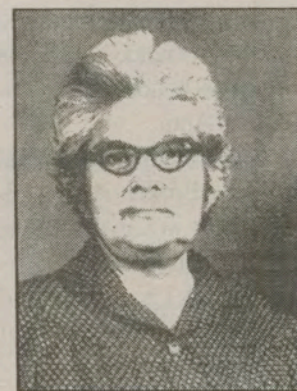
She began her formal education in the public schools of Morris and Fort Smith, Ark. She graduated from Bacone College High School in 1938. She attended Lindenwood College in St. Louis, Mo. and Oklahoma A&M College in Stillwater. She married Edwin S. Moore in Wagoner on Feb. 3, 1940.

In addition to her work in the home, she retired as a clerk stenographer from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in South Dakota and as a medical records technician with the Indian Health Service in Oklahoma. She was a longtime member of the Oklahoma State University Alumni Association and an active fan of the Cowboys. For many years she was a member and worker in Big Cussetah Methodist Church. As president of the Indian Mission District Conference of Women's Society of Christian Service, she followed her mother who was the first president of Big Cussetah WSCS. One of her hobbies was collecting roadrunner objects and jewelry, especially those that were Indian-made.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; four brothers, Solomon, Robert, Wilson, and John Beaver; one sister, Annie Daniels; and one half-brother, Mose Daniels.

She is survived by: her husband, Edwin S. Moore of Muskogee; sons, Edwin S. of Tulsa, William B. of Cushing, and David G. of Broken Arrow; daughter, Kelly Roberta Moore of Billings, Mont.; one brother, Ben Beaver of Okmulgee; and many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and other relatives and friends.

Interment was at Big Cussetah Church Cemetery.

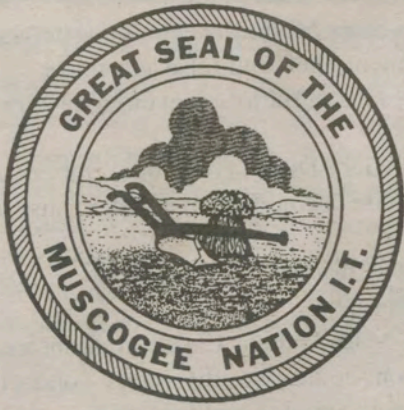


Gratitude

We want to say *mvto* to everyone for all the prayers and comfort they provided during our time of need. We appreciate every act of love, comfort, visits, phone calls and food that the family received.

He was a great husband, loving father, and good grandpa. He loved the traditional ways of the Mvskoke ceremonial grounds.

Lewis Fish Family



The Muscogee Nation News

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Chief representing tribes in D.C. and at Democratic National Convention

by Kathryn Bell

WASHINGTON—As chair of the American Indian Advisory Committee of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver has been working with the Washington D.C.-based DNC to get Indian issues on its platform.

Although Beaver has been closely working with the DNC on tribal issues, he feels that the protection of tribal sovereignty is a bipartisan issue. "We help those who help us," Beaver said. Some of the most pressing Indian issues discussed in July at DNC American Indian Advisory Committee's "Native Vote 2000" political briefing were: self-governance; sovereignty; treaty rights and federal trust obligation; economic development; health care; law enforcement; Census; education; and cultural issues.

Chief involved with committee since inception

WASHINGTON—Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver has been actively involved with the American Indian Advisory Committee of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) since its formation in 1996.

It is comprised of tribal leaders across Indian Country. Its main function is to serve in an

please see **COMMITTEE**..., page 3

please see **DNC**..., page 7

Makin' a splash

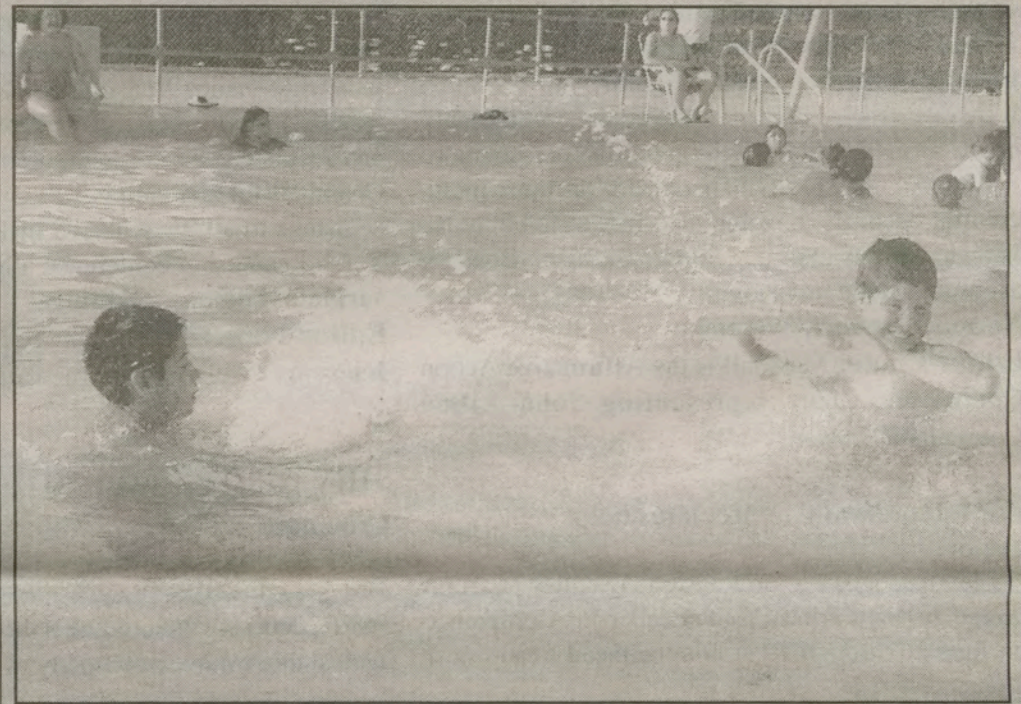


photo by Stephanie Barnett

Maskoke-Euchee brothers Matt and Spencer Bucktrot, ages 12 and nine, cool down with a splash fight at a Bristow Indian Community pool party held recently for community members.

They are the sons of Linda DeCosta and Rob Bucktrot, both of Bristow.

Mvskoke peoples endeavor upon better way to teach native language

by Stephanie Barnett

OKMULGEE—Many years ago, Louie Jackson's father told him that one day he would go to class to learn to speak "Creek."

True to the old man's words Jackson, along with several other fluent Mvskoke speakers, sat in a language immersion seminar—not to learn Creek—but to consider a better alternative to the way that the Mvskoke language has been taught for the last 20 years.

Ted Isham, of the Mvskoke Language Institute in Oklahoma City, believes that the classroom method of teaching the language is not effective in producing Mvskoke speakers.

"One of the major problems with the way we are learning language now...we go to a class and we take so many weeks or hours...but there's no real direction and we don't have an outlet to use it once we get done. We're just done, so we wait for another class. We can have classes all we want, but if we don't actually put that language to use...it [doesn't] become a part of us and we can't use it."

He believes that language can be effectively learned

in a way reminiscent of how Mvskoke was traditionally taught—in natural settings. Isham has been evangelizing, most recently with his coordination of a Creek Language Immersion Seminar, for the immersion method of teaching—a baptism, if you will, in the Mvskoke language. Isham contends that the immersion method is the most natural way of learning a language—an innate ability that all humans possess.

"We're not predisposed to any language—but the key to it is [individuals]...learned it as they were babies

All native languages in danger of disappearing

OKMULGEE—Fast forward to the year 2050—imagine that there are only five remaining Mvskoke language speakers, all of them elders.

It presents a bleak forecast for the preservation of tribal culture. With language at the heart of Mvskoke identity, how would the loss of speak-

please see **LANGUAGES**..., page 7

and they were surrounded by it.... They didn't have to go to classes to learn conjugations or past tenses...they just absorbed it in an immersion-type setting. It was surrounding them."

Many Comanche tribal members are sold on this method of teaching their language as well. The Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee, formed in 1993, has been utilizing this way of learning language for the last three years.

Structuring their program with guidance from a manual written for the survival of indigenous California languages, the Comanches have implemented an immersion method of teaching through a master-apprentice program. The program, which teams a fluent Comanche speaker with a beginning learner, stresses teaching the language with the absence of English. It encourages the exclusive use of the Comanche language with the use of gestures, facial expressions, pictures, and objects to help communicate.

please see **IMMERSION**..., page 7

Letters to the editor

Tribal manager's presentation appreciated

Editor:

On June 29 John Lilley Correctional Center held its quarterly multi-cultural luncheon. We had the honor and privilege of hosting Turner and Joyce Bear as special guests.

Mrs. Bear, cultural preservation manager the Muscogee Nation, was the featured presenter for the luncheon. She displayed items specific to the Muscogee culture. She presented an informative and enlightening program to an audience of employees who were mostly non-Indian.

Her impressive presentation was very professional and highly commendable. The general consensus of the audience was that she needed more time and most of the audience wanted to hear more. Our facility greatly appreciated Bear's sharing of culture. The baskets, turtle shells, beaded items, and brochures were well received. The traditional dress of the Muscogee women was the highlight of the presentation.

We would like to invite her again for future multi-cultural events. We would also like to publicly acknowledge our gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Bear for accommodating us.

Norma Marshall, Wetumka

Editor's note: Marshall is the Affirmative Action Committee Chair representing John Lilley Correctional Center.

JOM department appreciates help

Editor:

The Muscogee Nation Johnson O' Malley program hosted the Joint Tribes' Youth Leadership Conference on June 26 through 29 at Fountainhead Resort near

Eufaula.

A conference of this type requires extensive coordination with information and experts in related areas, especially involving tribal culture and history. This conference was no exception, but we didn't do it alone.

The JOM program department wants to express special thanks to: R. Perry Beaver, principal chief, for his attendance throughout the conference; Will Freeman, executive director, for his involvement in "Ask Your Tribal Official;" Joyce Bear, cultural preservation manager, and her husband, Turner, for their help in tribal history; George Coser, Creek Nation Housing Authority Resident Services, for traditions and culture; Chanenna Davis, higher education; Linda Johnson, children and family services; and Tim Thompson, preservation research specialist, for help in Creek language; Irene Culley, resident services, "Clan Feud," and traditional demonstrations. Other participants I also want to thank include: Ella Clark for sand paintings; Nancy Watson and Geneva Douglas for their help in storytelling and clan bingo; Lizanne Holata and Jackie Gibson for night monitoring; and Mistie Chambers for facilitating.

Thanks to all; they helped make our Joint Tribes Youth Leadership conference a huge success.

Virginia Thomas, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Thomas is the Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley program manager

July district court filings

Criminal:

- CRF 2000-10—Winona Lee Willett: count one, larceny; count two, theft against the Nation;
- CRF 2000-11—Winona Lee Willett: count one, crimes against the revenue or property of Muscogee Nation

Second opinion

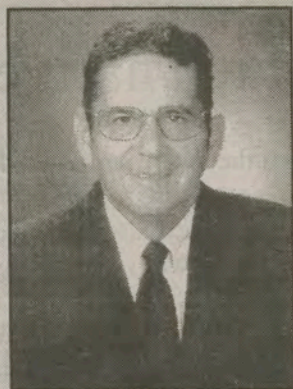
by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

I feel there are a few matters at hand that may interest tribal citizens.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' tribal road programs is finalizing the Montezuma road project. Also on target is the Bixby Road resurfacing project, which will probably start next spring with the cooperation of the Okmulgee County Commissioner from District 1.

The Muskogee Travel Plaza is being designed for construction with the Army Corps of Engineers as the construction managers to oversee the site. The Guersey company of Oklahoma City will be the general contractor.

On July 20, I visited with the elders at the Wetumka Elderly Nutrition Center. Many questions were asked about their usual concerns such as health and housing. David Yargee had questions concerning veterans' affairs and a few more issues. We all agreed that the client service division needs to send representatives out to assist elders at the elderly nutrition program centers and that transportation for



Ellis

our elders is sometimes very hard to get. Last week myself and Marshall Hardin, a commissioner to the Creek Nation Housing Authority, visited the Eufaula center. We checked on several homes that needed repair, plus the building progress on the Eufaula Head Start Center. This center is expected to be finished in mid-September. Our bingo halls and gaming centers have proven to be very wise investments. There income is good, thanks to our competent and dedicated gaming board members; let's not forget our bingo employees, without them we would be helpless.

Another good topic of conversation are the rumors regarding class III gaming. Many investment firms are eager to invest millions of dollars into our tribe if we only had casinos. In the meantime I see nothing wrong with having a good old hard working type of business like manufacturing or building a product that is in need. We are smart people so let's diversify in order to move forward in the business world.

We need to give our support to the new attorney general—Linda Susan Work—and the new members of the business boards.

Our increased success is a direct result of everyone working together, so keep up the good work. Mvto.

- CRF 2000-12—Stacy McIntosh: counts one through three, embezzlement, theft and false accounts
- CRF 2000-13—Janetta Harjo: count one, embezzlement
- CRF 2000-14—Gary Davis: count one, embezzlement, theft, and false accounts; count two, misuse of service or labor
- CRM 2000-04—Christina Davis: count one, possession of paraphernalia
- CRM 2000-05—Mark Anthony Littlebear: count one, public intoxication; count two, disorderly conduct; count three, resisting arrest; count four, indecent exposure; and count five, aggravated battery

Traffic:

- TR 2000-06—Billy Aldridge: driving without a drivers license
- TR 2000-07 Billy Aldridge: driving motor vehicle without current registration

Foreign judgements:

Burnett Furniture v. Norman McNatt

Small claims:

Heilig Meyers Furniture v. Judy Thomas
Burnett Furniture v. Emmett Frye
Star Loans v. Nahmee Wilson
Royal Finance v. Annette Washington
Royal Finance v. Donna Washington
Citgo Kelch v. James Williams

Domestic violence:

Jamie, Camie, and Tamie McIntosh v. Delbert Blackeyes

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the July 29 quarterly session.

Absent were: **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Duke Harjo**, Creek District; **Jacob Mosquito**, Creek District; and **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee District.

Speaker Wilbur Gouge, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended Tribal Resolution 00-33, confirming the nomination of **Fred M. Haynie** to serve on the gaming operations authority board. The amendment specified his term to be from Aug. 1, 2000 to July 21, 2002;

voting yes were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Nathan Buck**, Tukvptce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Bill Fife**, Okfuskee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Earl King**, Tulsa; **David Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Famous Marshall**, Okfuskee; **James McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Mary Sue Peak**, Tulsa; **Sandra Turner Peters**, Okmulgee; **Sheridan Pickering**, Creek; and **Tommy Pickering**, McIntosh;

Haynie is a tribal citizen residing in **Broken Arrow**;

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended TR 00-34, confirming the nomination of **Jerry D. Wilson** to serve on the board of trustees for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority. The amendment specified his term to be from Aug. 1, 2000 to July 21, 2002;

Wilson is a tribal citizen residing in **Tulsa**;

- approved (20-1) as amended TR 00-35, confirming the nomination of **Linda Susan Work** to serve as the attorney general for the Nation;

voting no was **T. Pickering**, McIntosh;

Work is a Choctaw Nation tribal citizen residing in **Okmulgee**;

- approved unanimously (21-0) TR 00-36, the selection of

contractors for major rehabilitation work for the housing authority and authorizing it to execute contracts for such major rehabilitation work;

- approved (18-2-1) as amended National Council Resolution 00-11, confirming the nomination of **Leonard Harjo** to serve as the director for the division of health administration;

voting no were: **Hale**, Okmulgee and **Little**, Muskogee; abstaining was **Chupco**, Muskogee;

Harjo is a Seminole Nation tribal citizen residing in **Ada**;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCR 00-12, confirming the nomination of **John M. Lieber** to serve on the tribal trade and commerce authority board of trustees;

Lieber is a tribal citizen residing in **Tulsa**;

- approved (21-0) unanimously as amended National Council Act 00-69, creating the position of tribal construction engineer within the department of tribal affairs;

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended NCA 00-85, authorizing approval of a budget modification for the Women Infants Children program. The modification is in the amount of \$154,916 for administration and \$222,155 for food;

- approved (20-1) to return to committee NCA 00-86, modifying the Administration on Aging, elderly nutrition program budget;

voting no was **Little**, Muskogee;

- approved unanimously (21-0) to return to committee NCA 00-91, authorizing the children and family administration, division of community services to expend funds from a grant entitled "Victim Assistance in Indian Country;"

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended NCA 00-92, authorizing an appropriation of funds for the development of a master facilities plan for the health administration;

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended NCA 00-97, authorizing the principal chief to negotiate for and purchase restricted property in Hughes County, State of Oklahoma, and to enter into an agreement with the Alabama/Quassartee Ceremonial Ground. The 154 acres of land, to be purchased with \$80,000 from the interest on the permanent fund account, will be used for hunting, acquiring herbal plants for medicinal purposes, camping, farming, and as a burial location for "all Native Americans;"

- approved (13-8) to table as amended NCA 00-104, authorizing the attorney general to commission an investigator for the office of attorney general;

voting no were: **Buck**, Tukvptce; **Chupco**, Muskogee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **King**, Tulsa; **McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Peak**, Tulsa; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

- approved (19-1-1) as amended NCA 00-107, authorizing and appropriating funds for honorariums for ceremonial grounds participating in the Council Oak Tree Ceremony and appropriating funds for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community to sponsor the annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony and dinner. Honorariums were appropriated in the amount of \$8,000. Funds for the dinner were appropriated in the amount of \$2,000;

voting no was **Chupco**, Muskogee;

abstaining was: **Little**, Muskogee;

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended NCA 00-111, appropriating additional funds for the special academic/extra curricular program. Funds amounting \$15,000 were appropriated from bingo revenue;

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended NCA 00-112, authorizing the budget modification for the fiscal year 1999 self governance planning grant;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-113, amending NCA 99-29 (funds for expenses related to the preparation of graves for tribal citizens). The original act was amended to authorize the principal chief to expend \$10,000 for expenses related to the preparation of graves and for the appropriation to be included in the comprehensive annual budget beginning in FY 2001 and thereafter;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-114, appropriating additional funds for the Este Cate Veterans (Mvskoke Nation) Honor Guard. Because of an increase from six to 13 members, the honor guard was appropriated \$1,500;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-115, amending NCA 96-66 (funds for rural volunteer fire departments within the Muscogee Nation). The original act annually appropriates \$40,000 to assist rural volunteer fire departments. This amount has not been expended annually. The amendment makes provision for the unexpended amounts to be returned to the tribal treasury;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-116, amending

please see **COUNCIL...**, page 9

Muscogee Nation Tribal Resolution 00-37

A Tribal Resolution Condemning The Washington State Republican Party For Passage Of Its Rash, Ignorant, and Inflammatory Resolution Calling For The Termination Of Tribal Governments

WHEREAS, The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a distinct, independent political community, like all American Indian tribal governments, which has existed before the founding of the United States, and as such, has enjoyed and exercised powers of self-government by virtue of their inherent sovereignty and fundamental right to self-determination; and,

WHEREAS, Indian Nations are permanent and separate political entities in the American Political system as provided by the Constitution of the great United States, treaties, statutes, executive orders and court decisions, including the Supreme Court ruling that Indian Nations have the right to determine their citizenship and who will vote in their elections and to shape the form of their own government as defined by their social and economic conditions; and,

WHEREAS, Tribal sovereignty is fundamentally necessary for Indian Nations to maintain their cultural heritage, and unique life-style as independent Indian communities; and,

WHEREAS, The United States has a legal trust responsibility and a moral obligation to protect and preserve Indian tribal governments; and,

WHEREAS, The Washington State Republican Party has ignorantly passed a resolution of folly and mean spiritedness which ¹⁾ overlooks the tribal sovereignty of all Indian Nations to be self-determining; ²⁾ flagrantly defies any principle of justice of which this country was founded upon; ³⁾ virtually attacks fellow American citizens; of which American Indians are—being dual citizens of their own tribal nations and also American citizens; ⁴⁾ disturbs

American Indian people with its inflammatory threat to "bring in the Air Force, Marines, and the National Guard if Indians fight back;" ⁵⁾ further demoralizes American Indian people who have historically been the victims of racism and often genocide at the hands of greedy and self-righteous men; and ⁶⁾ takes a dark and sinister stance which should be considered unpatriotic and insensitive, by overlooking the price paid by American Indian soldiers in every war ever fought by the United States against a foreign aggressor, particularly in light of the known fact that in the last three wars, more Indian servicemen and women have served this Country than any other race per capita.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation vehemently opposes the ill-conceived Resolution and chastises the author, John Fleming (Skagit County) of the Washington State Republican Party; and,

Furthermore,

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation condemns the rash, ignorant, and inflammatory anti-Indian resolution calling for the termination of tribal governments; and asks for a retraction from the Republican Party and joins with other tribal governments and organizations to request the Republican and Democratic leadership in federal, state and local governments, to implement a program of education in the public schools and for all U.S. citizens regarding Indian Nations and their rights to self-government.

Editor's note: Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver authorized tribal resolution 00-37 to become an ordinance on Aug. 3. This ordinance was printed at the request of the office of the principal chief.

Programs-notices

Applications available for school clothing

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care will begin accepting requests for applications for the 2000-2001 school clothing assistance program beginning Aug. 21.

Assistance in the amount of \$75 per child will be issued on a first come-first serve basis until all funds are exhausted.

Children must meet tribal membership and income eligibility requirements.

Applications must be requested via telephone and must be mailed in.

To request an application, call: (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705.

Mvskoke elders preparing for conference

BRISTOW—Twenty-four elders have committed to attending the National Indian Council on Aging Conference to be held in Duluth, Minn.

At maximum of 45 Mvskoke elders will board a bus which will depart from Okmulgee on Aug. 27 and return on Aug. 24, according to minutes for the Mvskoke Senior Citizens July meeting held at Bristow Indian Community Center.

The senior services department manager vacancy was discussed during the meeting also. National Council Representatives Keeper Johnson and James McGirt said that they would support its budget increase for fiscal year 2001 in order to fill the vacancy.

State vital records office to stay open late

OKLAHOMA CITY—The state vital records office will remain open until 6:30 p.m. each Thursday in August

Staffing coordinator selected as employee of the month

OKMULGEE—Alexis Crosley, Muscogee Nation personnel staffing coordinator, has been selected as employee of the month.

Her job duties include: recruiting and staffing personnel; interviewing new employees; and assisting the personnel manager and other staff with daily duties.

Crosley said the most rewarding aspect of the job is that she maintains a very good working relationship with directors, managers, and tribal employees.

Alexis graduated from W.H. Adamson High School in Dallas, Texas and attended Shoreline Community College in Bethel, Wash. She has been employed by the tribe for four years.

She enjoys camping, traveling, and spending time with her son, Christopher, age five, and grandson, Alex, age three.



photo by Gerald Wofford

Alexis Crosley receives a certificate from Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver

for parents who need copies of their childrens' birth certificates in order to enroll them in school.

To obtain a copy of a birth certificate, applicants will need to: provide a date of birth; place of birth; parents' names; and furnish photo identification. There is a \$5 search fee for each certified copy of a birth certificate.

During the later office hours on August 17, 24, and 31, persons may also obtain copies of death certificates.

For a death certificate application, applicants must provide the person's name and date and place of death. There is a \$10 search fee for each certified copy of a death certificate.

The office is located on the first floor of the Oklahoma State Department of Health located at 1000 N.E. 10th St.

Diamond and Dust softball tournament being held

GALLUP, NM—A Diamond and Dust Slow Pitch Coed Softball Tournament will be held Aug. 26 and 27 at Gallup Sports Complex located at 925 Park Ave.

Winners will receive: first place—warm up suits; second place—jerseys; third place—long sleeve T-shirts; and fourth place—T-shirts. The most valuable player awards for males and females are Gold EST Supercell Bats or \$200. Coach and traveling awards will be offered also. Cash and hourly prize drawings will be available for participating athletes.

One hundred of the \$175 entry fee is required by Aug. 21. The remaining balance is due by Aug. 25.

For more information, contact Vernon Warner at (505) 870-2665 or (505) 722-7831 or Theresa Warner at (505) 863-1337 or (505) 726-2624.

Red Cross offering HIV/AIDS courses

OKLAHOMA CITY—American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma is offering instructor candidate training and instructor courses for human immunodeficiency virus and AIDS.

A starter facts, facts practice, and instructor candidate training class will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 23. A Native American instructor course will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 24 and 25.

Both classes will be held at the University of Oklahoma OCCE at no cost.

For more information, call Teresa Smith, training coordinator, at (405) 948-2641.

New special trustee for Indians sworn in

PHOENIX—Thomas N. Slonaker was sworn in as the new special trustee for American Indians.

Slonaker was nominated for the position by the president in February and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in May. The Office of the Special Trustee was created by Congress in the 1994 American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act. The special trustee is responsible for the proper and efficient discharge of the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the proper management of trust assets.

Slonaker brings over 30 years of banking and investment management experience to the office of the special trustee. Most recently, he was an executive vice president and chief investment officer at Wells Fargo where he was responsible for the investment management of fiduciary assets totaling \$27 billion.

Food distribution sites, times, and dates

OKMULGEE—The following lists food distribution site locations and dates.

Times for the distribution of food are from 9 to 11 a.m. unless otherwise listed.

New and emergency applicants may receive food from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Okmulgee warehouse located at 1010 E. Eufaula.

Recipients that missed distribution at their regularly scheduled site may retrieve food at the Okmulgee warehouse; this arrangement requires that appointments be made by calling (918) 756-3467; or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 400.

The Okmulgee warehouse is closed on the last business day of each month.

Koweta Community Center

one-fourth of a mile north of stateway 51 on Ben Lumpkin Road and one-eighth of a mile east
9 to 11 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

Glenpool Community Center

one block east of state highway 75 and 141st street
first Wednesdays

Bristow Community Center

121 W. Lincoln
first Thursdays

Eufaula Community Center

800 Forest Ave.
second and fourth Tuesdays

Kellyville Community Center

five miles west of Sapulpa on state highway 66
second Wednesdays

Checotah Community Center

830 N. Broadway
second and fourth Thursdays

Wetumka Community Center

608 N. Creek
second Fridays

Okemah Community Center

1100 S. Woody Guthrie St
third Wednesdays

Holdenville Community Center

224 E. Poplar
third Thursdays

Dustin Community Center

corner of Sparks and Broadway
fourth Wednesdays

Weleetka Community Center

603 S. Chickasaw
fourth Fridays

Okmulgee Main Office

1010 E Eufaula
9 a.m. to 3 p.m., first and third Mondays

Education

Watonga citizen graduates as valedictorian

WATONGA—Tribal citizen Bryan James Beals graduated from Watonga High School with the distinction as valedictorian.

Beals also received the following academic awards: academic scholar; awards for excellence—Oklahoma State University; honor scholar academic achievement—OSU; boys state delegate; Cadet Lawmen Academy; Spanish II award; trigonometry award; geography award; Spanish honor society; Academic Excellence Academy; Watonga State Bank Academic Award; and Watonga Lions Club Academic Award.

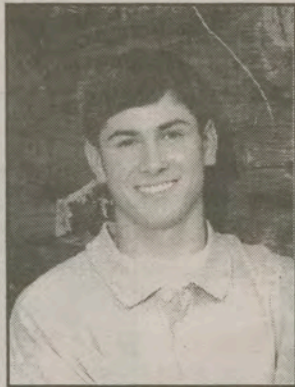
The following include his athletic accomplishments: academic all-state, basketball; all state honorable mention, basketball; all northwest honorable mention, basketball; all-conference, basketball; K-101 All Star Team, basketball; basketball team co-captain; regional champion, golf; state qualifier in golf, three years; golf team captain;

He also belongs to the following societies and organizations: Oklahoma Honor Society; National Honor Society; Students Against Drunk Driving, representative; and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Bryan is attending Oklahoma State University majoring in pre-medicine.

He is the son of Bobby and Vicki Beals of Watonga.

His grandparents are James and Collene Morrison Jones of Dustin.



Beals

Mason student signs with Carl Albert college

MASON—Jerri Culley signed a letter of intent to play

Yeager Head Start

Before and after

Jenks Head Start held graduation exercises on May 16 for students transitioning to kindergarten in August.

Right—pictured, left to right, front row: Brock Hill; Devin Jones; Matthew Partridge; and Dustin Melton; back row—Jered DeGraffenried and Patience Harjo.



Left—pictured after graduation exercises, left to right, are: Matthew Partridge; Devin Jones; Brock Hill; and Destiny Cloud

basketball for the Carl Albert State College Lady Vikings.

Culley belongs to the Alligator Clan and Okfuskee Stompground. She is the daughter of Irene and Faron Culley of Mason.

Her paternal grandparents are Lorene Cook Culley and the late Paul Culley.

Her maternal grandparents are the late Amos and Juanita Unussee Harjochee.

Her accomplishments and honors include: all state, 2000; All West Native American Basketball Classic Champions, 1999 and 2000; All West Native American Basketball Classic Most Valuable Player, 1999; Wendy's High School Heisman National Nominee; Kiamichi



Culley

All Star; all region MVP; all area MVP; Little River All Tournament Team, 1997 through 2000; Little River All Star Team 1997 through 2000; Little River All Conference, 1999 and 2000; Bowlegs Tournament MVP 1999; Bowlegs All Tournament, 2000; SuAnne Big Crow MVP, 1999; district champions, 1998 and 1999; regional runner-up, 1998; regional consolation champions, 2000; two year team high point scorer; two year team high rebounder; and National Honor Society.

Muskogee citizen earns medical degree

NORMAN—Kendall J. Little received a doctor of medicine degree from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in May.

As an undergraduate, Little was active in student government and Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He was elected vice president of the student body during his senior year. He is a 1996 graduate of OU also.

While attending medical school, he was active in the Association of Native American Medical Students and Health Science Center Student Association. He also was selected as the recipient of the Native American Student Services Award.

Little, and his wife, Mandi, currently reside in Akron, Ohio where he has begun his residency in emergency at Summa Health System.

Little is the grandson of the Wind Clan; he is the son of Harley and Gerri Little of Muskogee.

His paternal grandparents are the late Buster Little, Bearden, of Fish Pond Tribal Town and the late Nora "Blackie" Douglas, Nuyaka, of Nuyaka Tribal Town.

His maternal grandparents are the late Jay and Zora Pierson, Hulbert.

Citizen qualifies for world's largest rodeo

SPRINGFIELD, IL.—Mannford citizen Nicki Walker was crowned Miss Oklahoma High School Rodeo Queen which qualified her to compete at the 52nd Annual National



Little

Five Civilized Tribes Museum selects student art show winners

MUSKOGEE—The Five Civilized Tribes Museum announced the winners of its 30th annual student art show in May.

Award winners in seventh grade painting/drawing are: first place, "Stomp Dance Duel" by Isom Chotkey, Okemah, Noble Middle School; second place, untitled by Shenay Neal, Salina Middle school; third place, untitled by Kendal Gann, Salina Middle School; honorable mention, untitled by Amelia E. Hamilton, Coweta Junior High, untitled by Corey Latta, Salina Middle school, and "The Feed" by Tyler Osburn, Tahlequah Junior High.

Award winners in eighth grade painting/drawing are: first place, "Vision Seeker" by Jeremy Castel, Tahlequah Junior High; second place, "Trail of Tears" by Terry Justice, Tahlequah Junior High; third place, "Wild Buffalo" by William

Dugan, Oktaha; honorable mention, "Dancing with the

Spirits" by Kyle Jones, Tahlequah Junior high, "Club" by Jeremy Estira, Tahlequah Junior High, and "The Hunt" by Glen West, Weleetka.

Award winners in ninth grade painting/drawing are: first place, "Fire Vision" by Megan James, Coweta Junior High; second place, "Friendship" by Justin Chambers, Oktaha; third place, "An Indian's Heritage" by Jake Roberts, Morris High School; honorable mention, "Billy Bowlegs" by Ryan Harjo, Wewoka, "Spear of Life" by Jesse Bible, Morris High school, and "Indian Girl" by Brandon Caldwell, Tahlequah Junior High.

Award winners in 10th grade painting/drawing are: first place, "Dream Catcher" by Marion Taylor, Graham High School; second place, "Backyard Beauty" by Josh Barnett, Vanoss High School; third place, "Seven Clans of

Muscogee master artist judges show

MUSKOGEE — Johnny Tiger Jr., a master artist of the Five Civilized Tribes Museum and Center for the Study of Indian Territory, recently judged the 30th student art show at the museum.

Tiger, Muscogee-Seminole, has won numerous awards since he began painting professionally full-time in 1969.

"I enjoyed judging the show," Tiger said. "There was a lot of talent."

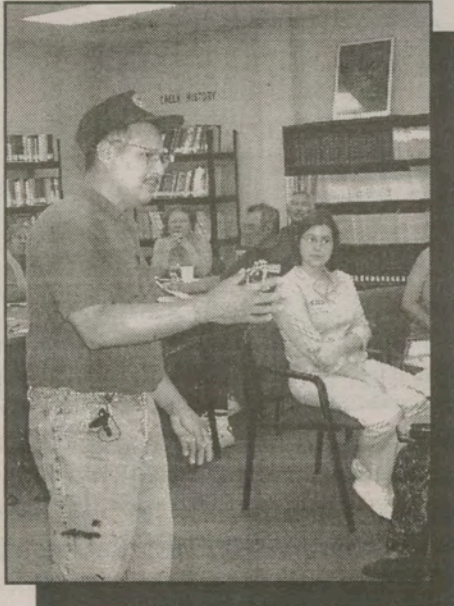
He complimented area schools for teaching Native American students the culture and ways of the tribes. He believes it keeps up Native Americans' appreciation of their history and their expectations.

please see JUDGES..., page 11

please see ART..., page 11

please see EDUCATION..., page 8

Mvskoke Language Institute Creek Language Immersion Seminar June 26 and 27



Ted Isham of the Mvskoke Language Institute touts the advantages of teaching the Mvskoke language with the immersion method. Pictured in the background, left to right, are: Sandra Turner Peters of Okmulgee; Turner Bear Jr. of Muskogee; Johnie Hicks of the Okfuskee area, and Julie Ziriah of Tulsa.



Euchee participants Dorothy Lee and Linda Harjo, both of Sapula, listen as Ron Red Elk, Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee president, talks about its master-apprentice program. Master Comanche speaker Gloria Cable of Cache is pictured far right.



Cable and her apprentice, Billie Kreger, demonstrate a beginning immersion lesson with the use of a mock table setting. Cable and Kreger, both of Cache, are mother and daughter.

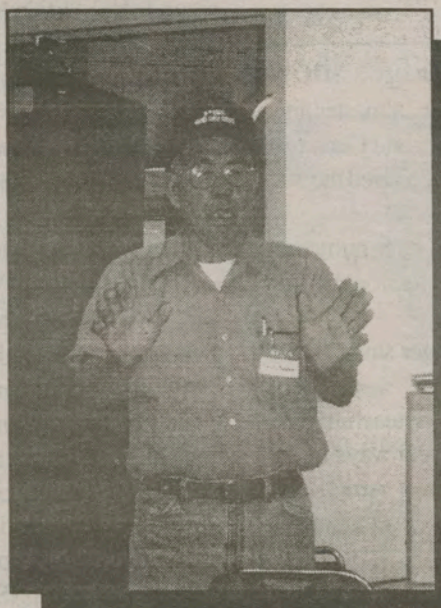


Mose Cahwee of Sapulpa—one of six remaining Euchee speakers—talks about concerns regarding his language. Also pictured, left to right are: Barbara O'Neil of the Kvncate area; Liz Phillips of Okmulgee; Renee Grounds (view partially obstructed) of Tulsa; Sam Proctor of Dustin; and Chanenna Davis of Hanna.

photos by Stephanie Barnett



Master-apprentice team Carney Saupitty and Richard Codopony Jr., both of Apache—one of the Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee's most successful teams—offered a demonstration on how to practice communicating with gestures.



Proctor talks about growing up with Mvskoke spoken in the home.



Sue Ann Davis of Lamar, center, participates in a group practice in which the names of each item in a table setting are said in the Mvskoke language. Group member Debra Isham of Oklahoma City, left, assists her as Christine Wolfe of Lamar watches.

Immersion

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During the first and second years of the master-apprentice program there were seven teams. This year there are six teams. Members of two of the most successful teams made lesson demonstrations during the language immersion seminar held at the Muscogee Nation Cultural Preservation Library in late June.

Master-apprentice team Carney Saupitty and Richard Codopony Jr., both of Apache, offered a demonstration on how to practice communicating with gestures.

Seminar participants were also instructed to speak exclusively in their respective languages during the first 15 minutes of their noon meal.

Codopony said that it is important to build vocabulary, outside of the designated time spent with the master, before immersion can begin.

"I considered it a waste of my time if I went back and was asking him the same words everyday. It was harder when the vocabulary was low, but as time went on it became easier to spend more time in the language. Now...if he tells me a story, the whole story will be in Comanche language....," Codopony said.

Ron Red Elk, Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee president, said once language base is established, then "mini sets" of immersion can begin.

"[Immersion] has to occur in degrees depending on the apprentice's knowledge base. If they're just a raw

recruit, then that immersion doesn't happen until they get a knowledge base so that they can communicate....," Red Elk, of Anadarko, said.

The teams commit to meeting 10 hours each week with their objective being the completion of 400 hours in 40 weeks. Red Elk said that there are many hours outside of the designated meeting time in which studying is required.

"It's not a task that somebody would want to take on that doesn't want to devote the time."

Codopony said that it was very difficult for him to "stay in the language and not break from it."

"That was the hardest thing—English being my first language—it was always natural to lapse back into it. It actually took quite a bit of work...trying to stay in Comanche was awfully hard; it's still awfully hard.... Because there's not large communities that speak Comanche anymore it's kind of a made-up environment anymore. We have to make time to say 'well this is time we're just going to speak Comanche.' It would be nice if there were communities where it was the language spoken," Codopony said.

Speakers among tribes represented at MLI seminar

- **Comanche**—under 100 speakers
- **Euchee**—five to six speakers
- **Muscogee**—3,000 speakers
- **Osage**—four to five speakers
- **Pawnee**—four speakers

Languages

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ers alter the way Mvskokulke conduct ceremonial rituals, song, dance, and worship? How has the loss of Mvskoke as the first language among tribal members affected thought process and philosophical outlook as Mvskokulke?

Many tribes, such as the Euchee and Pawnee, are facing similar situations and are racing against time to revive their languages.

The Muscogee Nation has an abundance of speakers—in excess of 3,000—but Mvskoke Language Institute Assistant Instructor Ted Isham believes that all native languages are in danger of disappearing—even tribes with large speaking groups such as the Navajo and Crow.

Why? Isham, of Oklahoma City, said that there are several contributing factors:

- native children are not being taught their languages;
- numbers are fewer among children that are being taught;
- children that speak their languages are immersed into an English language environment once they begin the school system;
- government policies toward language make English a dominant force; and
- native communities located in close physical proximity to mainstream communities are not as likely to retain language as communities that are isolated.

Because there are many Mvskoke speakers, it is easy to become complacent about learning the language, Isham says.

"[Mvskoke] Creek people...have many...thousands of speakers, but eventually, within the not to distant future, those speakers—will be gone. If they haven't passed on what they know...we'll be in the same boat as...some other tribes."

the College of William and Mary and a specialist in southeastern native languages. Margaret McKane Mauldin is an adjunct professor of Creek at the University of Oklahoma.

First modern dictionary of Creek language published by university

LINCOLN, Neb.—The "first modern dictionary" of the Creek language of the southeastern U.S. has been published by the University of Nebraska Press.

The result of over 10 years of research, "A Dictionary of Creek/Muscogee" draws on the expertise of a linguist and a native Creek speaker.

The dictionary contains over 7,000 Creek-English entries, over 4,000 English-Creek entries, and over 400 Creek placement names in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Oklahoma. The volume also includes illustrations, a map, antonyms, dialects, stylistic information, word histories, and other useful reference material. Entries are given in both the traditional Creek spelling and a modern phonemic transcription.

Jack B. Martin is an associate professor of English at

Chief introduces legislation opposing Republican resolution against tribes

by Kathryn Bell

OKMULGEE—Principal Chief R. Beaver recently introduced a tribal resolution in opposition to the Washington State Republican Party resolution which called for termination of all tribal governments.

It was unanimously approved by the Muscogee National Council during its July 29 regular session.

Editor's note: Tribal Resolution 00-37 is printed in its entirety on page three.

Hinton suggests that the master and apprentice consider their time together as part of their normal patterns of living; continue to do routine tasks such as laundry, cooking, or even watching television, with the volume turned down, while talking about what is being done in the native language.

Isham suggests that individuals and communities setup opportunities—such as at planned monthly dinners—for speaking exclusively in the language. He also encourages individuals to take advantage of opportunities for immersion at churches and ceremonial grounds where the language is predominantly spoken.

The Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee regularly hold language-related activities and are working on a dictionary. As part of its effort to revive Comanche spoken in the home, the group has initiated four new teams of five young mothers to one elder woman speaker.

Red Elk said that time is their biggest enemy—only the elders speak Comanche.

"There just has to be that desire to learn the language. Somehow or another you have to give them...the desire or the motivation and I don't know how that can come about other than just...flood them with the idea that it's important and if we don't do it while we've got the speakers...then we're just going to be brown, white people.... We just have to keep flooding our tribal population with this idea until...we're conversing at home, until we're conversing at church, until we're conversing [at] all activities."

DNC

continued from page 1

The Chief was enthusiastic about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's vigilance on Capitol Hill as a watchdog against intrusion into the tribe's sovereign rights. "I lead a tribal delegation to Washington D.C. on a regular basis throughout the year to meet on Indian issues—not only with our own Oklahoma Congressional delegation, but also other Congressmen who also fight for Indian sovereignty.

Indians are becoming a force to be dealt with in the elections in this country—I just read an article that showed the amount of contributions made by tribes to both the Republican and Democratic parties is astounding and growing everyday. I no longer think we are just the 'swing' vote...I know the Creek leadership and people have been fully supportive of our efforts in Washington and elsewhere on behalf of the ongoing fight for tribal sovereignty."

Beaver is attending the Democratic National Convention being held Aug. 14-17 in Los Angeles, Calif. His work there includes participation in daily Native American Caucus meetings. He is also serving as co-chair of the tribal sovereignty reception to be held during the convention. The reception is being hosted by U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy, D-R.I., whom Beaver believes is "one of the most outspoken and dedicated advocates of tribal sovereignty."

Committee

continued from page 1

advisory role to the DNC's Office of Native American Affairs—also established in 1996—in the areas of outreach, strategic planning, and education.

The American Indian Advisory Committee was instrumental in the DNC's 1998 passage of a resolution in support of tribal sovereignty—the first such resolution in over 150 years.

Education

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High School Finals Rodeo.

Walker, a junior at Olive High School, was crowned in June at the Chisholm Trail Expo-Center Coliseum in Enid.

In addition to the title, Walker wins a Wrangler Championship, which places her on the Wrangler High School All Star Rodeo Team.

Walker competed at the NHSFR National Queen Contest Competition held from July 21 through 30 in Springfield. Featuring over 1,500 contestants from 38 states, four Canadian Provinces, and for the first time Australia, the national high school finals is the world's largest rodeo. In addition to competing for \$100,000 in prizes, NHSFR contested also competed for more than \$150,000 in college scholarships and the opportunity to be named the National High School Rodeo Champion.

The Sunday championship performance will be televised nationally on the Outdoor Channel Network in a three week-long series. The three weekly one-hour shows will begin Aug. 23 and continue through Aug. 30; the last hour of the series will air on Sept. 6. All shows are featured as part of the Outdoor Channel's weekly "Rodeo Roundup" show and are scheduled to air at 8 p.m. central.

She is the daughter of Johnna Walker of Mannford and Terry Walker of Ruidoso, N.M.

Her grandparents are George and Luann Rasmussen of Mannford.



Walker

Birthdays

Tribal citizen to celebrate 90th birthday

MUSKOGEE—The Narcomey Family is recognizing the life of Frances Narcomey with a 90th birthday celebration to be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 23.

All friends, Chilocco Boarding School classmates, and West Eufaula Baptist Church members are invited to help celebrate her 90th birthday.

A lunch of traditional Maskoke food will be served.

The birthday dinner will be held at Muskogee Indian Community Center located at 111 S. Virginia Street.

For more information, contact Jackie Jackson at (918) 447-0624.

Baby celebrates first birthday at aunt's home

OKMULGEE—Carly Amada Ballard celebrated her first birthday on June 4 with several relatives at the home of her aunt.

She is the daughter of Alicia Burnside and Charles Ballard.

Her maternal grandparents are Alice Freeman of Okmulgee and Jones Burnside of Arizona.

Her paternal grandparents are Delores Lookout of



Ballard

Maskoke family are successful archery competitors

OKMULGEE—A David "Speedy" Harley and four of his children have been successfully competing in area archery competitions. They are members of Tulsa Archery Association (TAA) and Nations Field Archery Association (NFAA).

Harley competes with the recurve and compound barebow. He has received the following awards: 1999—first place, state target, TAA, Sperry, May; first place, Field Southern Sectional, Sperry, June; first place, state field, Bartlesville Archery Club (BAC), Bartlesville, June; aggregate award, annual meeting, December; 2000—first place, indoor 600, TAA, Sperry, February; first place, Sooner Sportsfest Winter Games, Oklahoma City, February; second place, Southern Sectional Indoor, Georgetown, Texas, March; first place, indoor 600, Trosper Archery Club (TAC), Oklahoma City, March; first place, 900 target round, TAA, Sperry, April; second place, Southern Sectional Field, Longview, Texas, June; and first place, state field, TAA, Sperry, June.

Yardeka "Yardy" George Harley competes with the compound barebow. He has received the following awards in the young adult division: 1999—first place, male barebow, TAA, May; first place, state field, BAC, Bartlesville, June; aggregate award, annual meeting, December; 2000—first place, indoor 600, TAA, Sperry, February; first place, Sooner Sportsfest Winter Games, Oklahoma City, February; first place, state indoor, Osage Archers, Bartlesville, February; first place, Southern Sectional Indoor, Georgetown, March; third place, national indoor, Tulsa, March; first place, 900 target round, TAA, Sperry, April; first place, Southern Sectional Field, Longview, June; and first place, state field, TAA, Sperry, June.

He attends Okmulgee High School.

Speedy Elaine Harley competes with traditional and recurve bows. She has received the following awards in the youth female division: 1999—20th Annual NFAA National Indoor Tournament Champion, Tulsa, March; first

place, state target, TAA, Sperry, May; first place, Field Southern Sectional, TAA, Sperry, June; aggregate award,



photo by Gerald Wofford

Members of the Harley family, pictured, left to right, with some of their archery competition trophies: Dakota, Jamaal, Speedy Elaine, Yardeka, and "Speedy" Harley.

annual meeting, December; 2000—first place, indoor 600, TAA, Sperry, February; first place, Sooner Sportsfest Winter Games, Oklahoma City, February; first place, state indoor, Osage Archers, Bartlesville, February; first place, Southern Sectional Indoor, Georgetown, March; second place, national indoor, Tulsa, March; first place, 900 target round, TAA, Sperry, April; first place, Southern Sectional Field, Longview, June; first place, state field, and TAA, Sperry, June.

She attends Okmulgee Middle School.

Jamaal Edward Harley competes with the compound barebow. He has received the following awards in the cub male division: 1999—20th Annual NFAA National Indoor Tournament Champion, Tulsa, March; first place, state target, TAA, Sperry, May; first place, state field, BAC,

please see **ARCHERS...**, page 11

Hominy and Louis Ballard of Miami.

She is the great-granddaughter of the late Cinda Hill.

She has one brother, Joshua.

Ballard is of Muscogee-Navajo-Osage-Quapaw descent.

Elders' celebrate June birthdays in Tulsa

TULSA—A birthday celebration for Rev. William Alexander, 88, Eloise Alexander Long, 83, and Maryland Harjo Willie, 86, was held at Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center on June 17.

All three elders celebrated their birthdays during the month of

June. Many relatives and friends were in attendance.

Alexander and Long are the children of the late Robert and Abbie Williams Alexander, Holdenville.

Willie is the daughter of the late Lewey Eufaula and Susie Solomon Harjo, Okemah.



Alexander, Long, and Willie

Reunions

Marshall

WETUMKA—A reunion of the family of Louis and Mandy Marshall will be held at 9 a.m., Sept. 2 at Wetumka Indian Community Center.

Each family is requested to bring a covered dish and a prize for drawings to be held during the day.

Cotchochee

EUFULA—A reunion of all blood descendants of Cotchochee and/or Katevce who belonged to the Thewarke Tribal Town will begin at 3 p.m., Sept. 4.

This includes his children: Jessie Tiger; Miller Tiger; Hettie Tiger Toney; Jennetta Tiger Burgess; Wilson Tiger; Jefferson Tiger; and their descendants.

The reunion will be held at the Eufaula Cove shelter. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish and family pictures and stories.

For more information, call (918) 456-1217 or (918) 689-4180.

Watson

TAHLEQUAH—The Watson Family will be held on Sept. 16 at Cherokee Landing on Tenkiller Lake.

A potluck dinner will be served. Games will be played for both children and adults.

Obituaries-religion

DANNY BERRYHILL

SALT CREEK—Funeral Services for Danny Berryhill were held May 27 at Salt Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Eugene Whitlow of Thlewarle Indian Baptist Church officiating.

Wake services were held at the church on May 26.

Berryhill was born Aug. 6, 1946 and died May 22 at St. Francis Hospital in Federal Way, Wash.

He was member of Salt Creek church and a graduate of Wetumka High School. Berryhill was a Vietnam veteran. He was awarded the: National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Campaign Medal; Army Commendation Medal; and the Bronze Star.

Danny was also a graduate of: Haskell Junior College, Lawrence, Kan.; Northeastern State University, Tahlequah; and Cameron College, Lawton.

He is survived by: his mother, Polly Hill of Wetumka; children, Gregory Berryhill of Auburn, Wash.; James Berryhill; Arica Berryhill of Des Moines, Wash.; a half-sister, Daria Hicks of Okemah; one aunt, Wynema Fish of Wetumka; and three foster sisters, Dorothy Guterreze of Amarillo, Texas, Margie Scott of Oklahoma City, and Sylvanna Jackson of Wetumka; and many other relatives.

The Este Cate (Mvskoke Nation) Veterans Honor Guard served as pallbearers.

Interment was at Salt Creek Cemetery.

ROBERTA JONES

OKMULGEE—Funeral services for Roberta Lynn Jones were held June 27 at Big Cussetah Church with Revs. Jim Alexander and Harry Long officiating.

Wake services were held June 26 at Robert Simons Funeral Home in Henryetta.

She was born Aug. 10, 1987 in Okmulgee to Glen and Elizabeth Scott Jones. She died June 23.

Jones resided in Dewar and attended Ryal School.

She was preceded in death by: maternal grandparents, Robert and Lillie Soweka Scott.

Jones is survived by: her parents; four sisters, Jackie Sue, Jennifer Lynn, and Brenda Sue Jones, all of the home, and Harriett Jones of Grayson; one brother, Scott Jones of the home; one nephew, Da'Mon Carter Jones of the home; paternal grandparents, Elmer and Mahaley Jones of Okmulgee; and many other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Jones Family cemetery.

SUSIE MONDAY

MORRIS—Funeral Services for Susie Randall Monday were held July 3 at Big Cussetah Methodist Church.

Wake services were held July 2 at McClendon Funeral Home Chapel in Okmulgee.

She died June 30 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. She was born April 23, 1907 in the Tiger Flats area to Timmie and Louisiana Sloan Randall.

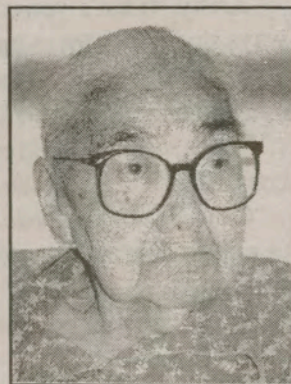
She was baptized on Dec. 26, 1940 by Reverend Robert Fish. She held many offices in the church; she was on the parsonage committee and a member of the United Methodist Women. Monday was Big Cussetah Church mother. As she had a gift for taking care of the sick, families often called upon Monday to sit with those that were bedfast.

Monday enjoyed sewing her own clothing and aprons as well as quilting. She was also skilled in Maskoke culinary arts.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband, Rev. Jackson Lewis Monday; two children, Virginia Lasley and Wesley Bear; two brothers; and six sisters.

She is survived by: three grandsons, Nathan "Pee Wee" Toney of Okmulgee; Milton Lasley; and Louis Monday of Okmulgee; and one granddaughter, Bernadette "Bernie" Whitlow, all of Okmulgee; one sister, Hepsey Gilroy of Wilson Community; one brother, Willie Randall of Hitchita; one stepdaughter, Marijo Braud of Irving, Texas; and one stepson, Jerry Monday of Oklahoma City.

Interment was at Big Cussetah Cemetery.



Monday

GREGORY ALLEN POPE

YARDEKA—Funeral services for Gregory Allen Pope were held July 6, 1998 at Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Wake services were held July 5, 1998 at Shurden Funeral Home Chapel.

Pope died July 1, 1998 and was born on March 6, 1964 in Henryetta.

He was preceded in death by: a nephew, Christo-

pher Lynn Pope; maternal grandparents, Annie and Jay Haynes; paternal grandparents, Minnie and Johnny Raymond Pope; and an aunt, Sylvia Beads.

He is survived by: three children: Gregory Allen Pope Jr. of Weleetka, Phillip Shatswell of Oklahoma City, and Nicholas Shatswell of Oklahoma City; mother, Cindy Smith of Weleetka; father, Bobby Pope of Henryetta; two brothers, Johnny Pope of Henryetta and Harold Haynes of Wewoka; two sisters, Jeannie Edwards and Lisa Pope of Henryetta; and many other relatives and friends.

Gratitude

In loving memory of our wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt we wish to thank everyone who sent flowers, food, and prayers, during our time of need.

A special thanks is extended to Big Cussetah Methodist Church for the kindness and comfort extended to us during our loved one's final illness and services.

We extend our utmost thanks to Rev. Harry Long and all the other church leaders who participated in the prayer service, wake service, and funeral service. All the services were beautiful and we will treasure the memories. *Mvto,*

Sallie Beaver Moore Family

The family of Jerry Wade Minyard, wishes to extend appreciation and heartfelt thanks to everyone you for their expressions of sympathy during the sickness and loss of our loved one.

Because were shown concern through the expression of condolences, loving thoughts, visits, prayers, flowers, food, and words of encouragement, the family was able to get through this time of deep sadness.

Humble appreciation is offered to Rev. Terry Pittman and the ladies of Salem Baptist Church for the beautiful service and lovely dinner. Special thanks is extended to Dean Tiger for his part in the services.

Jerry Minyard Family

Council

continued from page 3

NCA 98-17 (amending NCA 97-109—implementing a special academic/extracurricular program). The original act allows the human development committee to administer a special academic/extracurricular program. National Council Act 98-17 amends it by adding eligibility purposes and increasing the annual appropriation by an additional \$15,000 dollars—increasing the annual budget to \$30,000. Because of an increase in applicants, NCA 98-17 is amended to increase the annual appropriation to \$45,000;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-117, amending NCA 99-161 (establishing the official Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard). The original act establishes the Este Cate Veterans Honor Guard as the official Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard and authorizes it an annual appropriation of \$5,000. Because of increased activities performed by the honor guard, NCA 99-161 is amended to increase its annual appropriation to \$10,000;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-118, amending NCA 97-05 (repeals all previous ordinances and establishes the medical assistance act). The original act establishes the medical assistance act and appropriates \$23,000 for emergency medi-

cal assistance. Because of an increase in applicants seeking assistance, NCA 97-09 is amended to increase the annual budget to \$50,000; and

- approved unanimously (21-0) as amended NCA 00-119, authorizing and appropriating funds for Murrow Indian Children's Home in the amount of \$5,000 annually.

In items for consideration it:

- approved (19-0) TR 00-37, condemning the Washington State Republican Party for passage of its rash, ignorant, and inflammatory resolution calling for the termination of tribal governments;

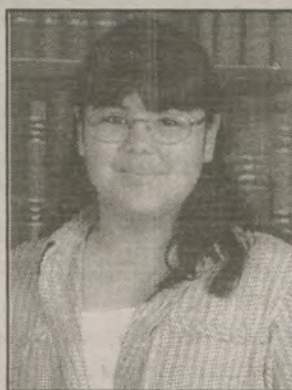
Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes and **Lewis**, Okmulgee did not vote; and

- failed (8-14) to approve four amendments to the rules of procedures;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

Fife, Okfuskee; **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvptce; **Marshall**, Okfuskee; **McGirt**, Tukvptce; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Peak**, Tulsa.

Editor's note: These are the unofficial results of the July 29 quarterly session of the Muscogee National Council. They will not be official until approved by the Council.



Jones

The Dream Machine

Kelsey Marie Proctor

*continued from the July issue of
The Muscogee Nation News*

Miss Laten pushed me out the door and said, "You know what today is!" She sounded very angry. I walked farther into town. I thought it was very interesting. (I didn't really know what interesting meant, but I thought it was a good word to use). I noticed that a lot of people looked like goblins. They had pointed ears, pointed noses, and everything else.

When I saw a market, I decided to look around inside. I walked on one side of the street to the market doors. I thought they would have automatic doors, but I was wrong. The doors were so heavy I could barely open them. As I was pushing with all my might, my cheeks became as red as a cherry. Everybody was staring at me. Then as my cheeks were becoming even more red, something caught my eye. A machine! I didn't know what kind of machine it was, but I decided to run over on the other side of the sidewalk and take a look. It had red painting on the other side. I had to sound out the word. "The D-RE-AM MA-CH-I-NE," I said happily. I thought it sounded out like THE DREAM MESHENE. I still didn't quite get the hang of reading yet. But like my kindergarten teacher told me, sound out the words or I'll start calling you birds. I thought that was silly, but kindergarten teachers are kindergarten teachers. And anyway, birds couldn't read! Maybe that was why she said that, but I still thought it sounded silly.

"Well, that must be the DREAM MACHINE," I thought. I tried to observe the Dream Machine. At first I observed the art on the machine. It was rainbow striped, polka dotted, and it had angels of all kinds of shapes and sizes. "Very pretty," I thought. Then, some little puffs of smoke started pumping out. Then the smoke started turning yellow, then green, then orange, then red, then blue, then purple, then indigo, then violet. I started to look at the words once more. After I read THE DREAM MACHINE (DREEM MESHENE) I noticed more words under it. It said 'INCORPORATED (INC) BY THE TOWN OF DREAMS.' I sounded it out and thought it said 'ENCOOPERATED BI THE TAWN OF DGREEMS.' "Very hard spellin'," I said with glee.

I decided to head toward one of the Super Markets. I saw a man and asked, "Sir, do you happen to know what most of the LOW prices are?"

"Why, little gal, don't you know?" the man responded. "Everything's free because today the major is coming back from the top of the Mortal World!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

"Oh," I thought, "maybe I hurt Miss Laten's feelings when I said what's the special occasion for. Oh

well." I tried to pull back the door until a little boy appeared.

"Here, let me help you," he said happily. He looked like he was a year older than me.

"Hi," he said, "what's your name?"

"Kristy. What's yours?" I asked shyly. I was always shy until I got to know people.

"My name is Joe. Sometimes the doors get hard to open when you're new," Joe explained.

"Wait a second," I said curiously, "how did you know I was new?"

"Cause when I was new, the doors were really hard to open. Here, I'll help you shop for some stuff. How long are you gonna stay?" Joe asked.

"Only five hours. How long have you stayed so far?" I asked.

"Five months," Joe answered. "It's a pretty nice place. It would be good for you to stay." We chatted for awhile longer. Joe opened the door for me. We walked inside the store.

"What a nice store. I think I'll shop for quite awhile," I said.

"I bet you don't know your way around," Joe said "I'll help you."

"Thanks," I said. Then Joe showed me to the food aisle. I had a big basket so I could buy all the things I wanted. I found some Rice Krispies Treats and decided to put two of those in my basket. Then I saw some interesting chicken nuggets and fish sticks that you just put in the microwave and BOOM, they're done.

After I finished with all my shopping, Joe brought me to his house to stay for at least three hours. Two hours passed very quickly. "Well, only one hour to go...two down, one to go," I said. Joe was watching the clock with fear that I would soon have to leave. He was looking at the clock while I was chatting. I didn't even notice that he wasn't listening.

Then he finally said something. He said, "5...4...3...2...1...BOOM! Oh, man!" Joe said sadly. "It's time for you to go. By the way," he said, "where are you going?"

"Don't you know?" I asked. "I'm going back up to the Mortal World. You know how to get me back up there, right?"

He nodded his head no. Then he said, "But there is one way. All you have to do is—well, do you

have a penny?"

"Yeah, zillions of 'em," I answered.

"Well, just go to the blue house on Maple Street, then turn to your left at the corner, go straight, then you'll see some cars. If you see some blue rectangular boxes on a brick wall, give them five pennies. Then you call this number: (918) 841-9132. Got that?" Joe asked.

"Yeah," I said. I started to walk out the door and I

said that I would try to come back and visit him.

Then he said, "You don't have to. You really don't have to." I didn't know what he meant and I wanted some time to think, but I just couldn't get my finger on it. I had no clue what he meant. So I went ahead and did what I set out to do. I went toward the blue house on Maple Street and turned left at the corner. I saw a lot of cars and some rectangular blue boxes on a brick wall. It looked like some business people were in some of them. I went in one of the empty rectangular boxes and called (918) 841-9132.

The vice-mayor of the town answered the phone.

"How may I help you?" he asked. I told him everything and asked him to pick me up at Joe's house. Then I ran all the way back around the corner, past the blue house on Maple Street to Joe's house. I knocked on his

"Then the Dream Machine came. They picked me up by the waist and put me into the machine. Then I became smoke!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

door and he answered it.

"Thirty more minutes until five hours are up," Joe said. Then the Dream Machine came. They picked me up by the waist and put me into the machine. Then I became smoke!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I zoomed through the tunnel and could barely hear Joe saying good-bye. I felt a tear in my eyes. I knew I was going to miss Joe and the old lady. Then I could feel the water pounding on my back. I still had a minute left to wash. "Ahh," I said happily. "I had a big adventure today and met somebody special that cared for me very much."

I got out of the shower and grabbed a towel. First I dried my hair and combed it. Then I dried off my face and neck, arms, legs, and feet. Mother already had my dress ready for me to put on when I got out of the shower. After I put my dress on, Mother put my hair in pigtails. Sydney said, "Mother, now will I get to take my first shower?"

"No," Mother answered. "Today is Aunt Dee's wedding and her shower. That means that everybody is going to give her presents and then after that, we'll eat. Aunt Dee is divorced, but now she's getting married again."

After we were all dressed and ready, we got into the car. I brought a notebook and pencil with me so I could write about all the things I saw in Dream Land. When we got there, Aunt Dee was in a pretty dress with her new husband. His name was Ryan. His side of the family came, too. I saw a boy that looked just like Joe. "Hi," I said not very shyly. I said it very excitedly.

"Don't I know you from somewhere?" he asked.

"You look familiar, too," I said.

"Is your name Kristy?" he asked.

"Why, yes!" I said surprised. "Isn't your name Joe?"

"Yes," he answered. "If we know each other so well, let's be friends."

We played all around the church. Before long, I realized Joe was Ryan's son.

So, whenever I go visit Aunt Dee, I can see Joe! I had only one more question to ask him. "Joe have you ever been sucked into your shower?"

"Why, yes I have!" Joe said.

"Me, too!" I exclaimed. "Maybe that's why we know each other so well!" I knew that we would become very, very good friends.

Board seeks address changes

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Election Board is seeking address changes for registered voters whose addresses are not deliverable.

Voters whose names have been published below are requested to submit their current addresses to the election board.

Current addresses may be submitted by writing: Muscogee Nation Election Board, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447; or calling, (918) 756-8700, or 1 (800) 482-1979, exts. 294, 349, or 350.

Editor's note: The following names are the final part of a listing of voters with undeliverable addresses.

TONEY, NATHAN LEE
TOWNSEND, BRIAN LECKIE
TOWNSEND, CURTIS LECKIE
TOWNSEND, JEFFREY LECKIE
TUCKER, JESSE OLLIE
TULSA, GWENDOLYN ANN
TULSA, JOHN WAYNE
TURN, JACK DEAN
TYLER, EUGENE
TYLER, MARGARET ANN
UNUSSEE, NATHAN JEFFREY
VANZANT, DONNA JAYNE
VAUGHN, MARTHA JANE
VAUGHN, SOUNDRA DEE
VAUGHT, TINA LEANN
VIETTI, BETTYLOUISE
VILLALBA, DIANA
VINYARD, BARBARA ANN
WAGGONER, KAREN
WALKER, JOHN ARTHUR
WALKER, VIRGIL RAY
WARD, JUANITA
WARE, JAMES MICHAEL
WARRIOR, LATREVA MICHEIS
WATASHE, CLEO
WATERS, MARGARET ANN
WATSON, CORA LEE
WATSON, MARY HELEN
WATTERS, DAVID EUGENE
WAUAHDOOAH, JOANNE
WEDER, ORA MAY
WEST, LEOLA
WESTBROOK, SALLIE LYNN
WHEATLEY, MAXINE
WHEELER, FREDDIE LEROY
WHITE, RAY ANN
WHITMAN, RICHARD RAY
WHITSON, KAREN JAN
WHITSON, MAC DUANE
WILEY, LADOSSA B.
WILLIAMS, DEE LAVERNE
WILLIAMS, LARRY DEAN
WILLIAMS, VICKY SUE
WILLIE, DAVIN WAYNE
WILLIMAS, DAVID IRVAN
WILLIS, CHERYL DIANE
WILSON, BARRY LEON
WILSON, CLARA MARGARET
WRIGHT, MICHAEL LLOYD
WILSON, FREDERICKA JANE
WILSON, SIMON LEROY
WINDELL, LINDA ANN
WINDERS, MICHAEL LEROY
WINDSOR, JUDY MARIE
WISNER, CLIFFORD SAMMY
WITHER, OLIVER LEE
WOOD, JUDY FLORENE
WOODFIELD, SAMUEL MARK
WOODSON, SANDRA KAY
WOOTEN, DENNIS KARI
WOOTEN, DONALD JAMES
WRIGHT, CLEO MILBURN
WRIGHT, VERNON LEE
YAHOLA, CHARLES RAYMOND
YAHOLA, VIRGINIA SUE
YARBROUGH, LINDA FAY
YARDY, THOMAS LEWIS
YORK, ROBYN JONELLE
YOUNG, VELMA JANE
ZIEGLER, FRANCES LEE

Nuptials

Williams-Sanders

TWIN OAKS—Rev. Jesse and Patricia Williams of Kansas, Okla. announce the marriage of their daughter, Sheena, to Jerrod Sanders, also Kansas.

Williams and Sanders were married by the bride's father at Twin Oaks Baptist Church on July 15.

The couple have made their home in Kansas and are expecting the birth of their daughter shortly.

Mrs. Sanders is the granddaughter of Velma McGeely of Holdenville.



Pictured, left to right, front row—flower girls, Holly and Haley Noe of Twin Oaks, Malaurie Blackfox of Leach; ringbearer, Makayla Williams of Kansas; and flower girl, Morgan Barr of Tahlequah; back—bride's maids, Ann Marie Bishop of Stilwell, Red Soldier of Checotah, Tonya Spodnick of Twin Oaks, and Tawonna Williams of Kansas; Sheena and Jerrod Sanders; groomsmen, Arlo Jack of Kansas, J.R. Fields of Oaks, Kyle Stick of Twin Oaks, and Justin Galcatcher of Stilwell.

Art

continued from page 5

the Night Hawk" by Joe Hair, Salina High School; honorable mention, "The Dreamer" by Darin Wilson, Salina High School, "The Medicine Stick" by Derrick Cochran, Salina High School; "The Warrior" by Chris Long, Graham High School.

Award winners in 11th grade painting/drawing were: first place, "Gone but Not Forgotten" by Tiffany Ballou, Salina High School; second place, "Life Ways" by Bill Yellow Bear Adair, Tahlequah High School; third place, "Swamp Safari" by Kim Yahola, Nathan Hale High School; honorable mention, "Barbwire" by Abby Crawford, Locust Grove Learning Center, "Cherokee Wolf Clan" by Johnna Hannah, Vanoss High School, and "Afk'E Hay' Etv" (Making Corn Mush) by Yahola.

Award winners in 12th grade painting/drawing are: first place, "Loga's Journey" by Laura Wilson, Morris High School; second place, "Carved Muscle Shell" by Jessica Landers, Morris High School; third place, "Spirit Vision" by Scott Brown, Plainview High School; honorable mention, "Mound Dweller" by L. Wilson, and "How We Obtained Fire" by David Calico, Tahlequah High School.

Award winners in sculpture/woodcarving are: first place, "Ue-Kvsv PPe" (Coldwater) by L. Wilson; second place, "Our Shade of the Earth" by Crawford, third place, "Leggins" by Kevin Carter, Vanoss High School; honorable mention, "Indian Brace" by Zach Presley, Byng High School.

Archers

continued from page 8

Bartlesville, June; first place, state indoor at Bartlesville; aggregate award, annual meeting, December, 2000—first place, state indoor, Osage Archers, Bartlesville, February; first place, Southern Sectional Indoor, Georgetown, March; first place, indoor 600, TAC, Oklahoma City, March; first place, 900 target round, TAA, Sperry, April; first place, Southern Sectional Field, Longview, and first place, state field, TAA, Sperry, June.

He attends Eastside Elementary School in Okmulgee.

Dakota E. Harley competes with the compound barebow. She has received the following awards in the cub female division: 1999—20th Annual NFAA National Indoor Tournament Champion, Tulsa, March; first place, state target, TAA, Sperry, May; first place, state field, BAC, Bartlesville, June; aggregate award, annual meeting, December 2000—

"Horse" by Misty Horton, Vanoss High School, "Mock Arrowhead Collection" by Elizabeth Porter, Vanoss High School and "Peace Pipe" by Rachel Gustin, Vanoss High School.

Judges

continued from page 5

He wants to see the young artists continue to pursue their talents and the museum to continue to promote artists. Tiger, who has mentored several young Native American artists including his nieces and nephew, the late Chris Tiger, would like to see more nurturing of young artists in all counties with large Native American populations.

"[There was] a good basic feeling for connection between the talents and expressions of the students with their heritage," he commented on the entries.

It took Tiger six hours to judge the entries. John "Yafke" Timothy, a Muscogee tribal citizen and cultural resource assistant at the museum, said Tiger weighed the entries carefully before making up his mind which ones would receive ribbons.

A sculpture by Muscogee citizen Dan Wilson was one of three pieces Tiger found particularly praiseworthy.

"Nokuse" (Bear), by Wilson of Morris Middle School, received the Willard Stone Memorial Award for the best sculpture or woodcarving. The polymer clay sculpture depicts a bear catching a fish.

first place, indoor 600, TAA, Sperry, February; first place, Sooner Sportsfest Winter Games, Oklahoma City, February; second place, state indoor, Osage Archers, Bartlesville, February; first place, Southern Sectional Indoor, Georgetown, March; indoor 600, TAC, Oklahoma City, March; second place, 20th Annual NFAA National Indoor Tournament, Tulsa, March; first place, 900 target round, TAA, Sperry, April; first place, Southern Sectional Field, Longview, June; and first place, state field, TAA, Sperry, June.

She attends Eastside Elementary School in Okmulgee.

"Speedy" Harley belongs to the Bear Clan. The children belong to the Wind Clan and Hillabee and Muddy Waters ceremonial grounds.

They are also the children of Betty Hogshooter.

Their grandparents are the late Luella Mae "Redd" Jackson, Weleetka and the late Hully and Pauline Solomon, Hanna.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending June 30, 2000

Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending June 30, 2000 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the first three quarters of fiscal year 2000. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grant or contract, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the first three quarters ending June 30, 2000.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved as of Aug. 28, 1999 in the comprehensive annual budget or as adjusted by ordinance.

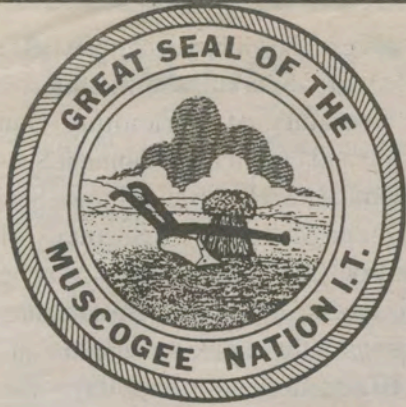
The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the quarter.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** reflects the net available for each department at the end of June 30, 2000.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

Program name	Receipts	Budgets	Encumbered	Expended	Balance
ICUSA	4.00	0.00	0.00	446.00	(446.00)
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	244,344.00	350,380.00	0.00	99,351.00	251,029.00
TREASURY	752,555.00	53,143.00	12,984.00	762,233.00	(722,074.00)
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	3,968.00	60,703.00	0.00	1,987.00	58,716.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	784,597.00	728,863.00	10,785.00	445,350.00	272,728.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	987,361.00	1,412,727.00	2,400.00	1,118,876.00	291,451.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	1,391,094.00	2,151,233.00	23,164.00	1,442,218.00	685,851.00
CONSUMER LOANS	14,156.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	2,562,126.00	3,162,975.00	260,450.00	1,832,703.00	1,069,822.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	1,818,729.00	499,759.00	127,206.00	265,330.00	107,223.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	133,746.00	0.00	0.00	45,374.00	(45,374.00)
BOK SETTLEMENT	9,278.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	1,088.00	3,983.00	328.00	2,519.00	1,136.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	19,395.00	12,181.00	0.00	8,469.00	3,712.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	785,019.00	1,421,684.00	6,431.00	758,805.00	656,448.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,037,139.00	1,223,744.00	95,327.00	662,581.00	465,836.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	13,648.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUMMER YOUTH '00	19,924.00	63,786.00	1,995.00	24,561.00	37,230.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH	22,400.00	0.00	0.00	89,594.00	(89,594.00)
WELFARE TO WORK	152,664.00	432,639.00	397.00	152,664.00	279,578.00
JTPA TITLE IV-A '99	402,918.00	442,152.00	1,621.00	402,967.00	37,564.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	29,115.00	154,426.00	0.00	29,114.00	125,312.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	47,017.00	750,000.00	0.00	47,379.00	702,621.00
HUD-INDIAN HOME PROGRAM	93,725.00	200,964.00	0.00	93,725.00	107,239.00
HUD-ICDBG	196,880.00	196,880.00	0.00	196,880.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	9,735,198.00	12,250,399.00	18,821.00	5,515,702.00	6,715,876.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	11,253,156.00	15,548,423.00	5,991.00	4,007,710.00	11,534,722.00
LIHEAP '00	67,157.00	83,424.00	418.00	69,822.00	13,184.00
CCDBG '00	1,743,086.00	3,110,482.00	16,463.00	1,772,355.00	1,321,664.00
ANA	2,043.00	16,517.00	0.00	2,043.00	14,474.00
HEAD START '00	729,891.00	1,468,125.00	16,812.00	731,204.00	720,109.00
TITLE IV-B '00	0.00	231,185.00	0.00	0.00	231,185.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '98	(1,426.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CCDBG '98 MANDATORY	104,372.00	119,015.00	0.00	104,371.00	14,644.00
CCDBG '98 CONSTRUCTION	34,178.00	34,178.00	0.00	34,178.00	0.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '98	(1,565.00)	0.00	0.00	(1,565.00)	1,565.00
LIHEAP '99	36,113.00	36,351.00	0.00	36,112.00	239.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '99	134,262.00	182,637.00	2,085.00	133,802.00	46,750.00
CCDBG '99 MANDATORY	632,115.00	993,355.00	42,084.00	633,775.00	317,496.00
CCDBG '99 CONSTRUCTION	708,468.00	750,000.00	41,532.00	708,468.00	0.00
HEADSTART '99	420,665.00	443,225.00	0.00	420,665.00	22,560.00
TITLE IV-B '99	118,899.00	154,099.00	2,424.00	118,914.00	32,761.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '99	135,526.00	193,154.00	2,507.00	135,526.00	55,121.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '00	217,172.00	372,168.00	3,056.00	223,897.00	145,215.00
LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	31.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	45.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	1,889.00	68,817.00	513.00	69,235.00	(931.00)
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	180,312.00	235,005.00	0.00	99,982.00	135,023.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	64,955.00	61,884.00	2,600.00	52,069.00	7,215.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	6,603.00	75,000.00	5,306.00	61,079.00	8,615.00
SENIOR SERVICES	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
ELECTION BOARD	584.00	950.00	0.00	0.00	950.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	15,137.00	6,083.00	0.00	5,214.00	869.00
GAMING REVOLVING	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	7,365.00	5,700.00	0.00	4,439.00	1,261.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	1,413.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C.D. REVOLVING FUND	185.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RUNNING STRONG DON.	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	717.00	283.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	1,337.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE INTEREST	12,449.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	172,991.00	213,877.00	6,168.00	172,991.00	34,718.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	5,581,359.00	5,269,272.00	98,591.00	3,178,568.00	1,992,113.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '00	11,657.00	11,544.00	0.00	4,410.00	7,134.00
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE	0.00	784.00	0.00	784.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	937,700.00	927,840.00	362.00	245,718.00	681,760.00
DOI ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP	3,600.00	28,350.00	0.00	3,600.00	24,750.00
DIVISION OF HUMAN DEV.	(2,275.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNANCE	0.00	128.00	0.00	128.00	0.00
SELF-GOV. NEGOTIATION	60.00	245.00	0.00	245.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	225,181.00	5,065,394.00	282,664.00	419,151.00	4,363,579.00
KELLEYVILLE BRIDGE	6,208.00	9,504.00	0.00	0.00	9,504.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	250,693.00	242,745.00	0.00	15,932.00	226,813.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	702,258.00	691,062.00	4,658.00	649,222.00	37,182.00
98 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.	7,816.00	8,226.00	77.00	8,127.00	22.00
99 JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	3,216.00	2,719.00	0.00	1,494.00	1,225.00
99 JOHNSON O'MALLEY	233,978.00	230,685.00	0.00	230,685.00	0.00
99 EUFAULA DORM	1,159,976.00	1,139,377.00	13,177.00	450,695.00	675,505.00
99 TRANSPORTATION IMPROV	18,399.00	57,581.00	0.00	22,451.00	35,130.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	0.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00
WETUMKA PROJECT	50,573.00	63,572.00	0.00	50,572.00	13,000.00
CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE	11,250.00	22,500.00	0.00	3,769.00	18,731.00
WATER QUALITY	3,171.00	30,000.00	0.00	3,171.00	26,829.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	0.00	93,518.00	89,817.00	0.00	3,701.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	39,383.00	131,577.00	23.00	39,382.00	92,172.00
CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT	16,760.00	18,617.00	295.00	17,119.00	1,203.00
DRUG COURT	56,493.00	165,399.00	0.00	56,493.00	108,906.00
EPA	9,937.00	174,109.00	28.00	10,093.00	163,988.00
TRIBAL COMPLEX RENOVATION	14,443.00	1,200,000.00	58,848.00	43,219.00	1,097,933.00
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ	3,347.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	548,495.00	0.00	0.00	76,864.00	(76,864.00)
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	3,905.00	4,645.00	0.00	1,363.00	3,282.00
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	280,797.00	419,407.00	2,322.00	101,814.00	315,271.00
COMMUNICATION REVING FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,699.00	(10,699.00)
MCN FLAGS & ETC	821.00	2,000.00	0.00	1,951.00	49.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	52,207.00	51,608.00	15,275.00	43,116.00	(6,783.00)
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	27,115.00	0.00	0.00	5,367.00	(5,367.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	18,407.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NEIL CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP	45.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	875,569.00	888,158.00	6,765.00	572,465.00	308,928.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	75,317.00	162,120.00	18,869.00	64,832.00	78,419.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	98,228.00	244,907.00	0.00	0.00	244,907.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	1,292,456.00	0.00	0.00	830,365.00	(830,365.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	2,541.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
EUFAULA DORM SCHOLARSHIP	17.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2,558.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
TOTALS	50,679,599.00	67,396,118.00	1,301,639.00	30,761,195.00	35,333,284.00



The Muscogee Nation News

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September 2000, 8 pages

Chief represents tribes at Democratic convention

by Kathryn Bell

LOS ANGELES—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver the attended the Democratic National Convention 2000 held Aug. 14 through 18.

As a member of the American Indian Advisory Committee of the Democratic National Committee, he and other Indian delegates and tribal leaders attended daily briefings of the Native American Caucus. The caucus is a recently organized group that is indicative of the growing Native American influence in the Democratic Party.

"Our caucuses and other Native American events were well organized thanks to the hard work of Holly Cook, Indian desk



Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver commends Yurok Tribal Chair and California delegate Susan Maston on her address to the Democratic National Convention. She was one of two American Indians to address the entire convention.

please see **DNC**..., page 2

Tribe hosting intertribal council

TULSA—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is hosting the quarterly meeting of the Five Civilized Tribes Intertribal Council on Oct. 12 and 13 at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

Scheduled activities include a golf tournament and a reception to be hosted by the Muscogee Nation Judicial Branch on the evening of Oct. 12.

The following committees will meet on Oct. 12: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation/repatriation; tourism; social services; child care/Head Start; employment and training; taxation and revenue; housing/Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act; health; gaming; environment; education; Indian child welfare; voter registration/certificate degree of Indian blood; human resources; roads; and aging services. For more information, call: (918) 756-8700, ext. 202.

Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard

Mvskoke veterans continuing warrior society tradition

by Vern Courtwright

OKMULGEE—Throughout history, Native American tribes have always honored and respected their warriors and veterans. Many have made the supreme sacrifice for their nation and country, while others still bear the scars, both physical and mental, of their service time.

In ancient times, warriors formed their own societies, made up of only those who had proven themselves in battle. Today's Mvskoke warriors serve in U.S. forces around the world. The



The Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard carry in the colors during the Red Earth parade held in downtown Oklahoma City in June.

warrior society tradition continues today through the efforts of a growing number of veterans who

have come together with fellow veterans to honor the tribe, its veterans, and their families.

Honor Guard members come from across the Muscogee Nation.

please see **GUARD**..., page 8

Muscogee People

Mounds citizen officiates at European lacrosse championship

by Gerald Wofford

GLASGOW, Scotland—Perhaps since the beginning of time, sports has been an instrumental part of Muscogee (Creek) Culture. The idea of competition through sports and games not only brings family and friends together, but is considered by many a staple in their tribal lives.

Chances are men or women that have Creek blood flowing through them have not passed through their youth without some influence from the world of athletics.

Even today, the elderly citizens of the tribe like to reminisce about their glory days when at one time they were "the best player out there!."

In the history of the tribe, when the ceremonial events and dancing was the center of life, the game of stickball became a natural addition and balance to social life among families and clans. It was not

used in the beginning for entirely friendly social purposes. On the contrary, the game of stickball would

often pit man against woman and clans and towns against one another. Often arguments or tribal disputes would be settled by the outcome or score of the game. Afterwards, no matter how ill

The MNN requests suggestions for series

Each month in "Muscogee People" *The Muscogee Nation News* will feature a tribal citizen who is making a positive impact for the tribe and/or for themselves. Individuals that know of citizens that they feel should be featured may contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 220; or e-mail—comm1@ocevnet.org.

please see **LACROSSE**..., page 8

Letters to the editor

Citizen seeking to correspond with relatives
Editor:

I have been doing genealogical research on my family and I would like to correspond with any decendants of my two great uncles: Ben McIntosh, roll number 2825 and John C. Lunsford, roll number 3383.

Both gentlemen were originally enrolled in 1890 at Coweta and both received allotted property near Redfork Indian Territory—present day southeastern Tulsa—around 1902.

Thanks in advance for any assistance on this important matter. Please contact me at the following address: Brian D. Worthy, 2003 Lacey St., Apt. #20, Bakersfield, CA 93304-5987.

Mvto. Nettv heren ocvs!

Brian Worthy, Bakersfield, Calif.

August district court filings

Civil:

Star Loans vs. Katherine Willie

Star Loans vs. Emmitt Fry

Star Loans vs. Donna Washington

Holdenville Finance vs. Tonya Martin

Domestic Violence:

Stacy Lumpkin vs. John Aldabaugh

Divorce:

Destrey Gibson vs. Donna Grant

Criminal:

• CRF 2000-14—Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jamie Frazier

• CRF 2000-15—Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Georgina Tiger

• CRM 2000-06—Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tracy Hogan

DNC

continued from page 1

for the Democratic National Committee in Washington D.C. and a host of other workers—including those of the host tribes of California. The caucuses were well-attended with an impressive roster of speakers....," said the Beaver.

The prominence of the caucus was validated further by the fact that Democratic Vice Presidential Candidate and Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., made a point of making an appearance at its meeting.

"[Lieberman] came to our caucus meeting first before making his appearance at the Convention," Beaver said.

Among others attending caucus meetings and speak-

ing on the importance of the Gore-Lieberman ticket for Indian people were: Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt; Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman; Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo; U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala; U.S. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson; California State Rep. Maxine Waters; and California Lt. Gov. of Cruz Bustamante.

After daily briefings of the Native American Caucus—held from 10 a.m. until noon each day—the remainder of the day was spent on the convention floor as the week culminated in the acceptance of Vice President Al Gore and Sen. Lieberman for the Democratic Party nomination for president and vice president of the United States.

At this historic convention—where 40 years ago Democrats nominated John F. Kennedy as president—96 Native American delegates representing 29 states were active on the convention floor in support of Indian issues across the country.

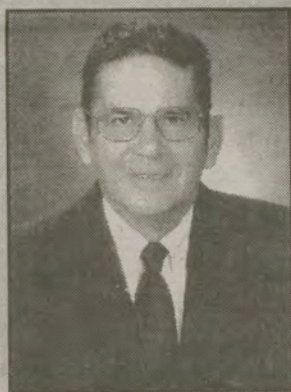
"It was an exciting and historic convention—to see the numbers of Indian delegates and Indian people take an active part in the political system of this country. There is a lot at stake in this next election and I believe the Gore-Lieberman ticket will advance our issues and so on that note—don't forget to vote," exclaimed Beaver.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Dog days of summer are here in Muscogee Nation again. I feel for our Creek Citizens who have to endure this hot summer without any air conditioning.

Call after call is received at this office for assistance and we cannot possibly help everyone. This is extremely disturbing—knowing that I can do only so much, for so few. Our fiscal year 2001 tribal budget was passed during the August regular session of the National Council. This is the third year that our tribal budget was approved before Oct. 1, the beginning of our new fiscal year. Many thanks to Controller James Pratt and his staff for their work toward the budget process.



Ellis

In the next 30 days we will be working hard to get all contracts in place to start construction on the new Muscogee Travel Plaza. Plans for a buffet or full service restaurant are included, plus a separate building for a smoke shop and gift shop. The later two will be operated by Muscogee Indian Community.

On the 16th of August I attended a farewell meeting for the Muscogee Nation elders who were go-

ing to Duluth, Minn., and points beyond, to attend the National Indian Council on Aging Conference. The National Council was thanked for appropriating funds for the trip as well as everyone else involved. Approximately 40 elders from many community centers were represented.

On Aug. 22 I attended a conference in Shawnee. Violence against Indian women was the issue. Muscogee Nation, along with most tribes in Oklahoma, were present to address this most serious problem.

On Aug. 24th, eight hours were spent at the maximum security Oklahoma State Prison at the request of the prison chaplain. Living like animals and in such cramped and hot conditions are inmates numbering over 1400. I have never seen such terrible living conditions before, although I realize that they did crimes against others to be there. We visited the young Creek men and many were to be released soon to unknown futures.

Drug tests were conducted for all tribal employees from August 23 through 31. The principal chief and myself were tested the on second day along with our staff. Speaker Wilbur Gouge requested that National Council members be tested also. This is a very positive action that will provide a drug free workplace.

Remember to drive safely and watch out for our young school children. They are the future of our tribe. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the August 26 regular session.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (22-0) Tribal Resolution 00-38, the selection of contractors for rehabilitation repair;
- returned to committee (19-3) National Council Act 00-54, establishing revised guidelines for the tribal burial assistance program and repealing previous tribal burial ordinances. The program issues onetime grants of \$1,000 to funeral services or individuals financially responsible for funeral arrangements of recently deceased eligible tribal citizens. Upon request and compliance with eligibility guidelines, \$100 is available for food for the funeral also;
- approved (22-0) NCA 00-86, authorizing a budget modification for the Administration On Aging—elderly nutrition program budget;
- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-91, authorizing the children and family administration, division of community services to expend funds from a grant entitled "Victim Assistance in Indian Country";
- approved (18-4) NCA 00-122, authorizing a special appropriation for the travel, accommodation, meals, incidental expenses, and graduation fees for a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, her husband, and mother to attend the Ohio State graduation ceremony in Columbus, Ohio. Appropriated from the interest on the permanent fund account was \$1,803 for Myra Alexander-Starr and family members. Starr received a doctorate in philosophy in higher education administration

on Aug. 31;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCR 00-123, amending NCA 99-58 (as amended by NCA 00-42) to carry over unexpended funds for the business enterprise board into fiscal year 2001. National Council Act 99-68 appropriated \$28,205 for the board's administrative and operational activities. Because of board vacancies, the funds were not fully expended;
- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-124, authorizing the expenditure of infrastructure grant funds for construction of a new Women, Infants, Children facility. The act authorizes the expenditure of grant funds in the amount of \$193,500 and \$23,000 of the operational adjustment funds for the division of health administration in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant;
- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-125, the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2001 and providing for appropriations;
- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-128, authorizing the principal chief to investigate and negotiate for the purchase of Frankoma Pottery business in Sapulpa and authorizing an appropriation of funds for related costs. The act authorizes the principal chief to use \$3,500 for appraisals, an environmental assessment, title analysis, and other related costs for the seven acres of land on which Frankoma Pottery is located;
- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-129, appropriating funds to purchase additional license plates for the motor vehicle registration department;

• approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-130, repealing NCA 00-118 and amending NCA 97-05 (medical assistance act) as amended; to increase the supplemental appropriation for services. The amendment increases the supplemental appropriation from \$23,000 to \$73,000.

• approved unanimously (22-0) as NCA 00-131, authorizing the disbursement of the community development block grant act funds for FY 2000. The act authorizes the principal chief to expend special appropriations in the amount of \$60,000. The money will be dispersed as grants to 15 chartered tribal communities that submitted applications complying with reporting requirements;

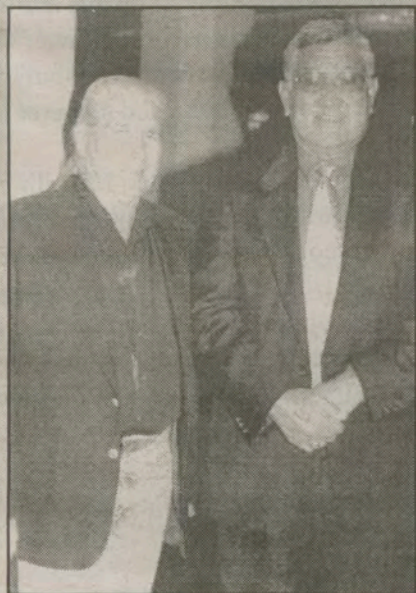
• approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-132, authorizing expenditures of funds for abating the former ice house and Oakdale School. The act authorizes the expenditure of \$70,000 from Bureau of Indian Affairs Self Governance funds to assist with costs for the demolition of the buildings;

• approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-126, amending NCA 99-114 (comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2000 and providing for appropriations) to authorize an additional appropriation to the health administration; and

• returned to committee (20-1-1) reestablishing the guidelines for the special academic/extra curricular program and repealing NCA 97-109, NCA 98-17 and any other ordinance in conflict.

Editor's note: These are the unofficial results of the August 29 quarterly session of the Muscogee National Council. They will not be official until approved by the Council. Records for voting and the roll call will not be available until the National Council approves the minutes for the August regular session.

Democratic National Convention—August 14 through 18



Left: Onondago Nation Peacekeeper Oren Lyons, left, and Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver visit at the American Indian Sovereignty Social 2000 held at the Beverly Hills Hilton Hotel. Lyons of New York was the keynote speaker for the reception. Beaver was the host and a speaker at the reception also.

Right: U.S. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, left, and Beaver talk informally at the Native American Caucus where Babbitt addressed Native American delegates and tribal leaders.



photos by Kathryn Bell



Above: Beaver, far right, is pictured with: Jim Gray, Oklahoma Indian Times publisher; Victor Rocha, an electronic news service editor; and Woyne Cassidy, coordinator of the sovereignty social.

Right: Beaver, left, and Oklahoma Sen. Enoch "Kelly" Haney listen to speakers at one of the daily meetings of the Native American Caucus.



Left: Beaver is interviewed by Valerie Taliman, associate producer of "Native American Calling," a radio program based in Albuquerque, N.M.

Programs-notices

Paden Indian Community schedules election

PADEN—Paden Indian Community is holding an officer's election on Sept. 11 in Paden High School Driver's Education Room.

The election will be for the offices of: chair; vice chair; treasurer; and secretary.

For more information, call (405) 734-4111 or (405) 932-4324.

Land consolidation symposium being held

PENDLETON, Ore.—The 10th Annual Indian Land Consolidation Symposium is being hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation on Oct. 16 through 20.

The symposium also marks a decade since the founding of the Indian Land Working Group (ILWG) at the same location. The week-long event will begin with a day of workshop sessions followed by three days of general sessions. The final day will end with a tour and other events planned by the host tribes.

General sessions and workshop topics include:

- Land Restoration/Recovery Opportunities;
- Impact of Fee-to-Trust Regulations on Tribes and Individual Landowners;
- Accessing Land Acquisition Dollars;
- ILWG Legislation to Address Fractionated Trust Land;
- Developing and Implementing a Tribal Inheritance Code to Preserve Trust Status;
- Is Trust Asset and Accounting Management System Working?;
- Reservation-wide Land Consolidation Plans Which Protect Tribal Jurisdiction and Acquisition;
- Public Lands: Impacting Exchanges and Transfers;
- Land Data Systems: Tribal Models that Work;
- Land Use Planning and the Importance of Zoning;
- Land Consolidation: Use of Gift Deeds and Disclaimers;
- Whatever Happened to Youpee: The status of Two Percent Interests; and
- Changes in the Indian Probate Process: Who Will Be Deciding Who Inherits Your Trust Property?

For more information, contact: Buffy Hines at (541) 276-3873, Theresa Carmody at (505) 668-9013; or see indianlands.com.

Indian association holding pow wow

NASHVILLE—The Native American Indian Association's 19th Annual Pow Wow and Fall Festival is being held Oct. 20 through 22 at Four Corners Water Park Recreation Area.

The event draws Native Americans from throughout North America and is attended by over 20,000 people during the three-day celebration.

The pow wow is the main fund-raiser for the Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, Inc., a nonprofit organization that serves the 13,000 Native Americans living in Tennessee.

The public is encouraged to attend this festival which features: Native American dancers in full regalia; traditional storytellers; music and musical instruments; Indian foods; art and crafts; jewelry; clothing; artifacts; and books and literature on North American

tribes.

Admission to the pow wow is: \$5 for adults; \$2 for children ages six to 12 years; admissions is free to children ages five.

Proceeds fund the NAIA emergency assistance and scholarship programs. For information, call NAIA at (615) 726-0806.

National Kidney Foundation releases guide

NEW YORK, N.Y.—One in every five American Indians and Alaska Natives has diabetes, which is the number one cause of kidney failure in the U. S. today.

This high incidence of diabetes causes American Indians and Alaska Native to develop kidney failure three times more often than whites, according to the National Kidney Foundation.

To help people in these communities learn more about two of the diseases that disproportionately affect them, the National Kidney Foundation has created a new educational brochure, "Diabetes and Kidney Disease: A Guide for American Indians and Alaska Natives."

Written in question-and-answer format, "Diabetes and Kidney Disease" provides important information about the prevention, control, and treatment of both diseases. It offers readers the opportunity to learn the symptoms of diabetes, the early signs of kidney damage, and treatment options for kidney failure.

Though all American Indians and Alaska Natives are at increased risk for developing type II diabetes, both diabetes and kidney disease can be prevented. For a free copy of "Diabetes and Kidney Disease: A Guide for American Indians and Alaska Native," contact the National Kidney foundation at 1 (800) 622-9010.

The National Kidney Foundation is the nation's leading voluntary health agency dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract disease, improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by these disease, and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation.

Reimbursement increase by \$15 million

WASHINGTON—Indian Health Service medical facilities that bill through the federal government will get an increase of \$15 million in their 2000 Medicare

and Medicaid reimbursement.

The increase is made possible through higher payment rates established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This translates into a \$22 million increase in Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for fiscal year 2001, which begins Oct. 1 and runs through Sept. 30, 2001.

For American Indian and Alaska Native communities, the increased payment rates will result in facilities being able to hire and train more staff, buy additional medical supplies and equipment, and improve their facilities. The new payment rates are retroactive to Jan. 1, 2000.

This year's rate increase is part of a multi-year effort to base IHS Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement on actual costs. Last year's rate increase for 1998 and 1999 calendar years translated into an additional \$82 million in Medicare and Medicaid collections for IHS facilities. Overall, Medicare and Medicaid collections for IHS facilities doubled from 1995 to 1999.

"In a technical sense, this is about increased reimbursements for Medicare and Medicaid services. But in a more real sense, it's not just a rate increase. These updated rates will provide additional resources for IHS medical facilities to effectively address the many health challenges of American Indians and Alaska Natives everywhere," said HHS Deputy Secretary Kevin Thurm.

The Medicaid inpatient per diem rate increase for fiscal year 2,000 over 1999 is seven percent for Alaska and nine percent for the lower 48 states. For outpatient visits the rate rises 26 percent for Alaska and remains unchanged for the lower 48 states. The Medicare rate increases for outpatient visits are 47 percent in Alaska and one percent for the lower 48 states. For part B, under Medicare, the reimbursement rates rise 71 percent in Alaska and 59 percent for the lower 48 states.

The IHS provides medical care to some 1.5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives who belong to about 560 federally recognized tribes. Medical and dental care are provided through a network of 49 hospitals, 209 outpatient facilities, and 285 health stations and school clinics located mainly in Oklahoma, the northern plains, the Pacific coast, Alaska and the southwest.

Creek Nation Festival Softball Tournament results

Women's All-Star

Tory Beaver—B&S Sluggers
Tera Carter—McCloud Redskins
Dolly Johnson—McCloud Redskins
Lisa Smith—OK Tribe
Dena Bread—OK Tribe
Mitzi Grove—OK Tribe
Alyssa Hale—Renegades
Dani McGirt—Renegades
Laura Henneha—Renegades

MVP: Kalonie Hulbutta—Renegades

First place—Renegades
Second place—Oklahoma Tribe
Third place—McCloud Redskins
Fourth place—B&S Sluggers

Men's All-Stars

Lonnie Bond—Bethel Braves
Ronnie EagleRoad—Oklahoma Braves
Melvin Hurst—Oklahoma Braves
Jimbo Crosley—Shades of Red
Darrel Reiming—Shades of Red
Ryan Hurst—Shades of Red
Luke Battiest—Little Axe
Pat Johnson—Little Axe
Randy Battiest—Little Axe

MVP: Arnold Taylor—Little Ave

First place—Little Axe
Second place—Shades of Red
Third place—Oklahoma Braves
Fourth place—Bethel Braves

Programs-notices

Girl receives awards at Morris schools

MORRIS—Tribal citizen Laura Anne Wilson recently graduated from Morris High School.

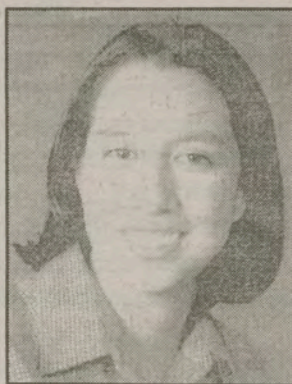
She was a peer tutor in the Morris Indian education program for three years. She was named to Who's Who Among American High School Students and the United States Achievement Academy.

Wilson participated in the 1999 National Native American Youth Initiative in Washington, D.C. which was sponsored by the Association of American Indian Physicians. She represented the Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley program at the 1999 National Indian Education Association Conference, placing in the oratory contest.

Her high school activities included: golf; softball; choir; art; competing in local, state, and national art competitions; Future Homemakers of America chapter treasurer, two years; Morris National Honor Society chapter treasurer, one year; class treasurer, two years; Oklahoma Honor Society; Oklahoma Indian Honor Society; and the Morris Indian Education/Title IX committee student representative, two years; honor roll with awards in history, science, math, art, Spanish I and II, and FHA; and the Presidential Fitness Award for Academics.

She has won numerous awards in sculpture, drawing, weaving, and painting. In 1997 she designed the logo for the Creek Nation Festival and was named Junior Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation. She was named first runner-up in the 2000-01 Miss Mvskoke Nation pageant.

She received Morris Indian Education Parent Commit-



Wilson

Nation hosts Joint Tribes Youth Leadership Conference

EUFAULA—The Muscogee Creek Nation Johnson O'Malley Program hosted the Joint Tribe's Youth Leadership Conference on June 26 through 29 at Fountainhead Resort.

Each year the Five Tribes plan the event for students from JOM service areas in the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee, and Seminole nations. Thirteen students from the Muscogee Nation participated in this year's conference.

This year's focus was teaching tribal government and history through games and other competition activities such as clan olympics, clan feud, a talking circle, clan bingo, Five Tribes challenge bowl, "scategories," and ask your tribal official.

Participating Muscogee Nation JOM staff were: Virginia Thomas; Rachael Newton; and Martha Wind

tee Outstanding Senior Girl and Muscogee Nation JOM scholarship awards. Other scholarships she has received include: Northeastern State University Heritage Scholarship; Bank of Oklahoma; Tulsa Indian Art Festival; Clara Moots Burnett Memorial Scholarship; Oklahoma State University Tech Credit Union; and Miss Mvskoke Committee Scholarship.

Wilson is currently attending NSU in Tahlequah and plans to major in the medical field.

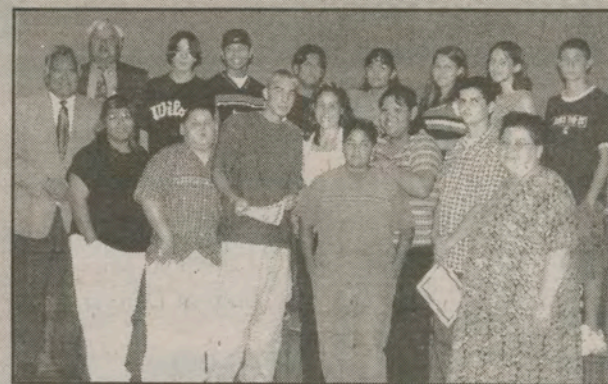
She belongs to the Raccoon Clan and Tukvptce Tribal Town.

She is the daughter of Al and Sandy Wilson of Morris. Her grandparents are the late James and Carmen Griffen Fife and the late Alvie and Ruth King Wilson.

Wilson attends Thlewarle Baptist Church and Opportunity Heights Baptist Church in Tulsa.

Haskell alumni to hold Oklahoma reunion

OKLAHOMA CITY—The 2000 Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma Reunion will be held October 20



through 22 at the 5th Season Travelodge. Individuals attending the Joint Tribes Leadership Conference are pictured, left to right, front row: Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; Rachael Newton; Anthony Wood; Clinton Hicks; Micah Barnett; Samantha Coon; James Fife; and Virginia Thomas; back row—Will Freeman; Isom Chotkey; Jackie Jones Jr.; Robert Severs; Precious Severs; Ashley Deerinwater; Stacy Mull; and Shane Franz.

through 22 at the 5th Season Travelodge.

The reunion agenda includes: Oct. 20—evening reception; Oct. 21—golf scramble, dinner (reservations must be reserved), and dance; Oct. 22—morning singing by alumni groups, the Buck Family, and the Osceola Trio.

To request a registration packet, contact Joyce Childers Bear at (918) 756-8700, ext. 602 or e-mail cultural@ocevnet.org; or Flo Tanner Spotted Bear at (918) 342-6403.

All Haskell alumni are encouraged to attend. Rooms may be reserved at a reunion rate by calling 1 (800) 522-9458 or (405) 843-5558.

Jones Male Academy Reunion

HARTSHORNE—The "All Jones Male Academy Reunion" will be held at Jones Academy on Oct. 21.

All individuals that attended Jones Academy up until 1954 are encouraged to attend. For more information call: Bruner at (580) 298-3136; Jimmy Frazier at (580) 584-6200; or Tom Williston at (580) 286-3585.

Muscogee youth selected among Five Tribes Intertribal Councils' outstanding students

McALESTER—Muscogee Nation Johnson O'Malley Program students Zach Buck and Tracie Cantrell were youth named as Five Tribes Intertribal Council Outstanding Indian Students of the Year.

They were recognized during the July 7 quarterly meeting hosted by Choctaw Nation. As outstanding students, they received a certificate signed by the Five Tribe's leaders and a monetary gift to assist with educational expenses.

The outstanding students are:

Zach Buck

Buck graduated from Holdenville High School as valedictorian with the ranking of number one in a class of 98.

His high school memberships included: Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Native American Student Council; BETA; Upward Bound; Jim Thorpe Relay Track Team; Champions of Champions Football Team; powerlifting, math, and biology scholastic teams.

His awards include: basketball—all conference, two years; football—all state, all conference, elite player of the week, and hustler of the week; powerlifting—first place individual standing; regional champions, state champions, and national champions; track—220 relay team, Jim Thorpe relay, placing first and second, two years; All Around Boy for Holdenville High School, 2000.

Bucks' honors include: Oklahoma Honor Society; National Honor Society; superintendent's honor roll; all state

academics in basketball; all conference academics in basketball and football; JOM All Conference Academics; student of the week; certificates of achievement in Spanish, English, science, biology and history; and listing in Who's Who Among American High School Students.

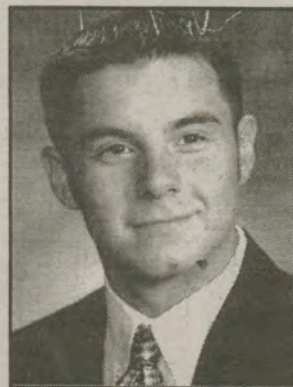
Buck was also recognized for perfect attendance throughout his four years of high school.

His contributions to community service include: coaching little league basketball; umpiring junior high baseball; school and church food drives; and clothing drives.

He was awarded the following scholarships: National Venture Scholar; Masonic Lodge Perfect Attendance; Coke Cola/Dr. Pepper; American Legion Student of the Year; and Sheena Clarks Campbell.

Buck is attending Oklahoma State University with plans to major in mechanical engineering.

He is the son of Kay Buck and the grandson of Buckner "Sock" and Linda Buck; and



Buck

Tracie Cantrell

Cantrell graduated from Bristow High School as valedictorian with the ranking of number one in a class of 117.

Her high school activities included: student council, president; varsity cheerleading, captain; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and class secretary.

Her special interest and community involvement activities include: Community Bank Student Board of Directors; all school musicals, "Music Man" and "Guys and Dolls;" elementary and middle school cheerleading instructor; Thanksgiving dinner food drive for 2000 poverty-stricken people; Red Cross Blood drive organizer and worker; chamber of commerce Christmas elf; and parking valet, Gov. Frank Keating campaign.

Cantrell is attending Northeastern State University with plans to obtain a bachelor's degree in secondary education language arts and a master's degree in psychology.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Zeddie Cantrell.



Cantrell

Education

Arrivals

Josiah Berryhill

DENVER, Colo.—Josiah Thomas Berryhill was born Feb. 7 at Rose Medical Center to Michael D. Berryhill and Vanessa Perez, both of Denver.

He is the son of the Raccoon Clan and Tukvptce Tribal Town.

His grandparents are Jean Berryhill Wilson of Okmulgee and the late Thomas Berryhill.

Berryhill's maternal great-grandmother is Elizabeth Wacoche Porter of Coweta. His paternal great-grandparents are Thomas and the late Blanche Berryhill, Wilson Community.



J. Berryhill

Danita Miles

TOWAOC, Colo.—Danita Marie Miles was born Oct. 7, 1999 to Jefferson and Juanita Miles of Towaoc.

She weighed 8 pounds, 2 and one half ounces and was 21 and one half inches in length.

Miles is of Muscogee-Sac & Fox-Ute descent.

She has four brothers: Waylon; Jesse; Joseph; and Elijah Miles.



D. Miles

Birthdays

Colorado toddler turns two

DENVER, Colo.—Antonio Michael Berryhill turned two years old on May 11.

His parents are Michael D. Berryhill and Vanessa Perez, both of Denver.

He is the son of the Raccoon Clan and Tukvptce Tribal Town.

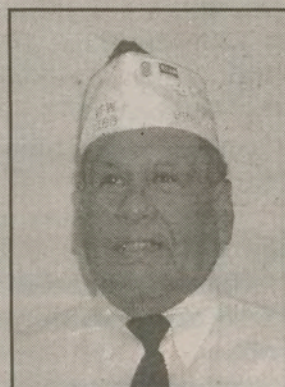
Citizen receives Veterans of Foreign Wars award

OKLAHOMA CITY—Okmulgee citizen Robert "Bill" Jones was selected as one of 17 recipients of the Veterans of Foreign Wars All State Commander Award in Oklahoma.

He was bestowed the award at the Veterans of Foreign Wars state convention by State Commander Jay Bjorn. Jones was given a pin and a white cap which distinguishes him as a recipient of the award.

"It's an honor to have won this award because of the honor and perseverance associated with it."

Jones is serving his



Jones

fifth term as commander of the Okmulgee VFW Post #1189.

The criteria for selection requires that each commander's post: maintain post membership at 100 percent of the previous year's rate; sponsor youth activities; be involved in community service; be involved in Veterans Administration hospital voluntarism; sponsor the "Voice of Democracy" speech contest; sponsor a youth essay contest; and maintain a community activities book.

Jones is the first Okmulgee post commander to receive the award since 1988. He is a Vietnam War combat veteran and a life member of the VFW.

He currently is employed as community service worker that assists veterans and their dependents and widows with filing claims with the Veterans Administration.

He is the son of the Elmer Jones of Okmulgee late Elsie Roberts.

His grandparents are Jean Berryhill Wilson of Okmulgee and the late Thomas Berryhill.

Berryhill's maternal great-grandmother is Elizabeth Wacoche Porter of Coweta. His paternal great-grandparents are Thomas and the late Blanche Berryhill, Wilson Community.



A. Berryhill

Colorado boys celebrate birthdays

TOWAOC, Colo.—Elijah Daniel Miles celebrated his second birthday on May 20 and Joseph Niko Miles celebrated his fourth birthday on June 18.

They are the sons of Jefferson and Juanita Miles of Towaoc.

They are of Muscogee-Sac & Fox-Ute descent.



J. Miles and E. Miles

Narcomey celebrating 90th birthday

MUSKOGEE—Frances Narcomey, formerly from the Hanna and Eufaula areas, is celebrating her 90th birthday Sept. 25.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend a covered dish luncheon to be held at Muscogee Indian Community Center located 111 S. Virginia from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 23.

Narcomey belongs to the Bird Clan. She was born Frances Marie Lewis to Jackson and Amanda Sunday Lewis of Hanna. She was married to the late Raymond Narcomey, a longtime pastor at West Eufaula Baptist Church.

Reunions

Adams

BEGGS—The Adams family of Beggs is holding a reunion in October.

For more information, contact Willie Adams by writing: 12101 Calle De Maria, San Diego, CA 92128; or calling (858) 673-4300.

Bucktrot-Brown

GYPSY—The third Bucktrot-Brown Family Reunion was held on June 18 at the homeplace of the late Madison and Annie Brown Bucktrot south of Bristow.

As family members from across the state gathered to fellowship, share memories, and mementos, they honored elder family members Phoebe Bucktrot Jones and Ruth Bucktrot Crittenden as the two surviving children of Madison and Annie Bucktrot.

A covered dish dinner was served and guest of honor Phoebe Jones was given a birthday cake and gifts in honor of her 80th birthday.

Family members played games for which gifts and prizes were given.

The deceased children of Madison and Annie Bucktrot are: Susannah Brown Wilson; Alice Bucktrot Wheeler; Hazel Bucktrot Jones Tiger; Wade L. Bucktrot; Alvin Bucktrot; and Tony Bucktrot.

There were around 42 family members in attendance.

World War II veterans reunite at tribal capitol complex after 56 years

OKMULGEE—After 56 years World War II veterans Thomas Coker and Arthur Schladerman were reunited.

After the war, Coker settled in Okemah and Schladerman in California. After living in the west for a few years, Schladerman moved to Kirkland, Wash. where he found work as an artist meanwhile Coker relocated to California, then back to Oklahoma where he settled in Tulsa and currently resides.

For more than 30 Schladerman annually visited relatives in Morris. The last address that he had for Coker was in Okemah, but he didn't know, until this year, that the town was only a 40 mile drive from Morris. Upon that realization he went to Okemah and asked an Indian man if he knew Coker. The

man instructed him to seek help in finding him at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex.

Upon arriving at the tribal complex he asked Election Board Office Clerk Betsy Varner if she knew Coker and she replied— "yes, he's my uncle."

A heartfelt reunion at the tribal complex completed his search.



Schladerman and Coker

Obituaries-religion

MORRIS BAHE

EUFULA—Funeral services for Morris "Shawn" Bahe were held Aug. 21 at Artussee Baptist Church with Revs. Birdcreek Phillips and Allison Phillips officiating.

He was born March 7, 1982 at Tulsa to Samuel Bahe and Gwendalyn Barnett.

Bahe was baptized at the age of eight and was a member of the Artussee church.

He was a student at Checotah High School and was attending Indian Capital Vo-Tech at Muskogee and the North Peoria Campus Vo-Tech at Tulsa. He had been taking welding classes which he enjoyed.

He is survived by: his mother of the home; a brother, Scott Bahe of the home; his grandfather, Morris Bahe of the home; a sister, Tammy Barnett of Tulsa; five uncles, Darrell "Sonny" Barnett of Oklahoma City, Fred Barnett of Tulsa, Eddy Barnett of Tulsa, Bruce Barnett of Eufaula, and Rosco Barnett of Checotah; and numerous relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by: his grandparents: Mercedes Barnett, Daniel and Katie Scott, and Roman and Mindy Barnett, and a nephew, Baby Barnett.

* Pallbearers were: Joe Dale, Jack White, Nathan Barnett, Marcus Barnett, Joe Horton, and Kenneth Carr. Honorary bearers were uncles of the deceased-Darrell "Sonny" Barnett, Fred Barnett, Eddy Barnett, Bruce Barnett and Rosco Barnett.

Burial was at the Barnett Family Cemetery.

ANNABELLE DIACON

BROKEN ARROW—Graveside services for Annabelle Hotvle Diacon were held June 30 at Floral Haven's Garden of Angels in Broken Arrow with Rev. Bill Thompson officiating.

She was born prematurely and died on June 27 at St. John's Medical Center in Tulsa. She was the infant daughter of Johnnie and Nikki Diacon of Tulsa.

She was preceded in death by: paternal grandparents, Margaret Harjochee Bridgeford, Cecil Iron, and the Helen Diacon; and paternal great-grandparents, Adam and Jennie Harjochee.

She is survived by: her parents; three sisters, Mika Diacon, Chrissa Hicks, and Melissa Diacon; maternal grandparents, Michael and Carolyn Stephens; and many other relatives and friends.

STEPHEN LEWIS

EUFULA—Funeral Services for Stephen Lewallen Lewis were held Aug. 24 at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Raymond Beaver officiating and Tom Pickering assisting.

He died at his home on Aug. 21. He was born Nov. 30, 1929 at Canadian to Benjamin and Janie Scott Lewis Charles.

Lewis was a member of West Eufaula Baptist Church. He was an Army veteran, having served from January 1949 to April 1966, who served in

Morning Star/Two Rivers Ministry dedicates new church building

DUCK CREEK—On June 3rd a crowd of 400 people were in attendance to see the ministry of Morning Star/Two Rivers dedicate the opening of its new church building.

"Look What the Lord Has Done" was the theme for an adjoining campmeeting which was held prior to the church dedication.

Ministers who assisted in the dedication include: Dr. Eddie Mitchell; Dr. John Benifiel; Cindy Jacobs; John Bowers; Dr. Jay Swallow; Gary Bergel; and Dr. Niegel Bigpond. The Adkinson Family from Dallas, Texas provided the music.

Other plans for the ministry, which also includes a training center, include dormitory construction to house individuals to training and teaching in reservation ministry. Plans are also being made for the development of a cultural center.

Morning Star/Two Rivers Ministry is the creation

of Revs. Niegel Bigpond and Jay Swallow.

"The ministry was established to not only spiritually assist Native Americans and others locally, but

to train others on the mission field and reservations everywhere," said Jan Bigpond, a member of the ministry.

Classes are available and many are accredited through Oral Roberts University in Tulsa.

Services are held each Sunday at 10:45 a.m. and at 7 p.m. and also on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. A youth service is also held each Saturday night from 7 to 9 p.m.

The church is located 4.5 miles east of U.S. Highway 75 on 221st Street South.

For more information, call the Two Rivers Native American Training Center: (918) 366-6735; or see its web-site at www.2-rivers.com.



Morning Star Evangelistic Center

the National Guard. He was a retired dump truck operator.

Lewis married Wilma Pearce on May 23, 1967 at Stigler.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; a son, Daniel Lewis; two daughters, Stephanie Duncan and Nancy Lewis, both of Eufaula; four grandchildren, Anthony Lewis, Jacob Lewis, Alyssa Duncan, and Kyle Puckett, all of Eufaula; three sisters, Margie Charles of Eufaula, Ellen Pepiakitah of Jones, and Jacqueline Sanders of Tahlequah; one brother, James Charles of Eufaula; and numerous relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, his stepfather, Rufus Charles; his grandparents; one brother, Nolan Dabbs; a grandson, Stephen Duncan; and an infant son.

Pallbearers are Robert Lane; Bob Tanner; Steve Jones; Kevin Harris; Carl Wiles; and Hershel Burngarner. Honorary bearers were Isiah Jones and Tom Craig.

Military honors were conducted by the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard.

Burial was at Lenna Cemetery.

HAZEL POWELL

MOUNDS—Funeral Services for Hazel Irene Wills Powell were held Feb. 24 at Mounds Cemetery with Rev. Phil Pack officiating.

Powell was born Aug. 31, 1901 at Mounds, Indian Territory to Henry F. and Mary Ann Linkhart Wills. She died Feb. 21 at her home in Webbers Falls.

She attended school at: Mounds and Tulsa Central High School, and graduated from Conway-Brun School in Tulsa. She married F. Park Powell on Dec.

17, 1921. She was a member of Boston Avenue United Methodist Church in Tulsa and had made her home in Webbers Falls for the past nine years.

She was also preceded in death by: her parents, her husband; three brothers; and a sister.

She is survived by: two daughters, Bonnie Birkes of Webbers Falls and Mary McGoodwin of Oklahoma City; grandchildren, Kenneth P. Birkes of Russellville, Ark.; David J. Birkes of Tulsa; Jimmy McGoodwin of Oklahoma City; Mary Ann McGoodwin of Denton, Texas; and two great-grandchildren.



Powell

Gratitude

We knew that our daughter and sister was blessed with family and friends. We didn't realize how much she was blessed until this time of sorrow.

Thanks to all the people for everything you have done—the flowers, food, visits, and kind words. We can never thank you all enough. May God Bless each and everyone of you.

Roberta Jones Family

Religion

Yeager to hold annual gospel singing

YEAGER—Yeager Methodist Church is holding its annual gospel singing 7:30 p.m., Oct. 14.

The master of ceremonies is David Little.

From Wetumka, drive four miles south on U.S. Highway 75 and turn west on Yeager Road.

Guard

continued from page 1

They are school board members, volunteer fire fighters and tribal ground *mekkos*. They have fought or served in every American conflict from World War II to Desert Storm. They say pride, integrity and respect are the reasons they have come together.

Originally established in 1996 as the "Este Cate Veterans," the group was recently recognized and funded by the National Council and officially changed its name to the "Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard." Thomas Yahola, the group's commander, was instrumental in establishing the legislation. This legislation, National Council Act 99-161, establishes, designates and funds the group's efforts in representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at ceremonies, parades, and funerals in honor of its veterans.

When asked how and why the group got started, Yahola said "We had veterans living in the Wetumka and Holdenville areas that did not have access to a veteran's service officer to work with the veterans and their disabilities. We also were aware that a lot of our Indian veterans were passing on and being buried without the benefit of proper military honors and ceremony. We fold the flag for them, present it to the proper family member, and honor our veterans by playing taps."

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver stated "I was real pleased that Thomas Yahola got a group of veterans together and got the National Council to fund them; it honors our veterans and warriors. All tribes think highly of their warriors and we do too."

Posting the colors at the inauguration of Principal Chief Perry Beaver in January of this year was the honor guard's first official function and was well received by those in attendance. The honor guard has performed as the primary color guard for the Muskogee Azalea Festival Parade as well as posted colors at the Sovereignty Symposium held in Tulsa in June. It marched with Beaver in the Red Earth Parade in Oklahoma City also.

Rufus Scott of Wetumka, the honor guard's secretary-treasurer said that the reason he joined the honor guard was because of his respect for other

families as much as I do the veterans," Scott adds.

Amos Harjo of Muskogee served for 22 years as an Army paratrooper. Having seen combat in Korea and Vietnam, Harjo is now a national service officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart with the Veterans Administration. When asked about his involvement in the honor guard, Harjo says "I'm overjoyed and privileged to be a part of this great organization."

The Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard recruits new members at almost every public appearance it makes.

Honor guard members' wives form its ladies auxiliary. The auxiliary is considering making shawls which will display the honor guard's emblems as a way of showing support for all veterans.

"We represent the Nation as a whole and we do it with integrity," Yahola comments about the honor guard's success.

The honor guard meets on the second Saturday of each month. The meetings consist of discussions about future events, close order drill practice, and an occasional pot luck dinner.

The honor guard performs military honors at funerals for any deceased Mvskoke veteran if notified within 48 hours prior to the funeral service. It is the goal of the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard to have enough members in the group for more coverage at events, parades, and funerals.

Those interested in joining the honor guard or for more information, contact Yahola at (918) 756-8700, ext. 272.



photo by Ted Underwood

Pictured, left to right—front row: Smiley Barnett, of Dewar; George Almerigi of Okmulgee; John Yahola of Cromwell; Michel Fish of Wetumka; Jessie Givens of Wetumka; and Thomas Yahola of Wetumka; back row—John Asbury of Henryetta; Vern Courtwright of Onapa; Loy Thomas of Okmulgee; Tim Thompson of Henryetta; Leo Moppin of Wetumka; and Gary Givens of Wetumka.

veterans and their families. "Not only do the veterans go through a lot of sacrificing, but the families also have to sacrifice—brothers, sisters, moms, dads, grandfathers; it was just as hard on them cause they had to let that loved one go. So, I respect the

Lacrosse

continued from page 1

the feelings or consequence of the game, both parties would shake hands and leave it all on the field of play, or in this case, battle. The game of stickball has been called the "little brother of war" because of its dominate position in tribal social matters.

Today, the game of stickball isn't played for such high stakes, although the game is still enjoyed by many at the ceremonial grounds; the game also has its influence in other games.

The game of lacrosse had its origin and influence from the game of stickball. Not only from the Muskogee, but other tribes as well. Although the game is played all over the United States, it seems to have gained more popularity on the east coast.

One Muskogee citizen who is keeping it close to home is Rodney Meyers of Mounds, Oklahoma.

Meyers is an official who represented the Iroquois Confederacy in the International Lacrosse Federation European Championship Tournament. Meyers has lived in the area all his life and is one of the founding members of the Tulsa Lacrosse Club.

The International Lacrosse Federation European Championship is an annual tournament. This year, it was held July 29th through Aug. 5th in Glasgow, Scotland.

Each team invited to play in the championship were required to bring officials; although a Muskogee, Meyers represented the Iroquois Confederacy. "Because they [Iroquois] did not have enough officials to bring, they looked for other Native Americans to invite. I was honored that they asked me."

The Iroquois Confederacy was the only American Indian tribe invited to play in the championship. "They are good," said Meyers, "they take their Lacrosse very seriously."

Meyers was not only chosen because of race, he is a pure lacrosse player. Meyers plays with a national team comprised mostly of Naval lacrosse players. "We call ourselves 'The Navy Goats,'" Meyers laughs, "because we're all in our forties."

Meyers understands and sees the connection and influence that the game of Muskogee stickball has on the modern game of Lacrosse.

"There is a spiritual sense to the game," he says

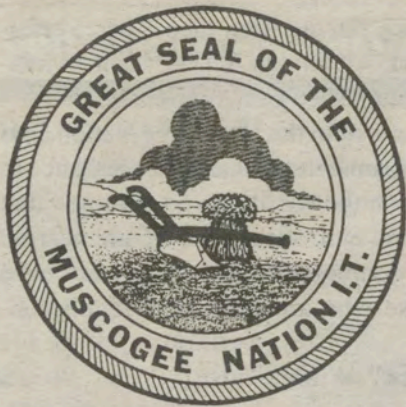
respectfully, "it is a disciplined game with rules and regulations."

Although the modern game of lacrosse is played with only one stick as opposed to Creek stickball—which is played with two sticks—today's game is also rough. "Its fashioned after the old stickball games," Meyers adds, "it's only played with gloves and helmets."

Meyers hopes to someday start a Muskogee youth lacrosse team. "There are a lot of scholarships to be had out there amongst colleges and universities looking for lacrosse players," he adds, "I know a lot of these kids have been playing all their lives."

The game of stickball has been a game of fellowship, fun, and even healing for many Muskogee citizens. It is interesting to note that the offspring of this wonderful game is still helping its citizens.

Editor's note: Individuals interested in starting a youth lacrosse team are requested to contact Rodney Meyers at (918) 581-4306.



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Bureau makes apology for "legacy of racism and inhumanity"

WASHINGTON (AP)—The head of the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs apologized for the agency's "legacy of racism and inhumanity" that included massacres, forced relocations of tribes and attempts to wipe out Indian languages and cultures.

"By accepting this legacy, we accept also the moral responsibility of putting things right," Kevin Gover, a Pawnee Indian from Oklahoma, said in an emotional speech marking the agency's 175th anniversary.

Gover said he was apologizing on behalf of the BIA, not the federal government as a whole. Still, he is the highest-ranking U.S. official ever to make such a statement regarding the treatment of American Indians.

The audience of about 300 tribal leaders, BIA employees and federal offi-

cials stood and cheered as a teary-eyed Gover finished the speech.

"I thought it was a very heroic and historic moment," said Susan Masten, chairwoman of California's Yurok Tribe and president of the National Congress of American Indians. "For us, there was

a lot of emotion in that apology. It's important for us to begin to heal from what has been done since non-Indian contact."

Lloyd Tortalita, the governor of New Mexico's Acoma Pueblo Tribe, welcomed the apology but said, "if we could get an apology from the whole government,

that would be better."

Although Gover's statement did not come from the White House, President Clinton's chief advisor on Indian Issues, Lynn Cutler, said Gover sent her a copy

please see **APOLOGY**..., page 5

Apology pervades Native American spirituality dialogue

by John A. Lovelace, United Methodist Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY—On the same day that the Bureau of Indian Affairs marked its 175th anniversary by apologizing for the agency's "legacy of racism and inhumanity," about 80 Native American Christians, Native religionists, and non-Indian

please see **DIALOGUE**..., page 5

Council Oak Tree Ceremony scheduled

TULSA—The annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony will be held from 1 to 2 p.m., Oct. 21 at 18th and South Cheyenne Avenue.

The ceremony agenda includes:

• *Invocation*: Tom Tiger

• *Flag presentation*: Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard

• *Welcome*: Carol Morris, Tulsa Creek Indian Community Chair

• *Reading of Proclamation*: Carol Morris

• *Introduction of Moderator*: Carol Morris

• *Introduction of dignitaries and guests*: Wilbur Gouge, Muscogee National Council Speaker

• *Lighting of fire*: Kenneth Childers

• *Keynote speaker*: Tim Thompson

• *Introduction of Mekkoks*: Eunice Hill

• *Program*: Eunice Hill

The traditional activities, including a stompdance, following the ceremony will be held on the grounds of Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center. Handmade Indian arts and crafts will be available for sale. Indian vendors are encouraged to set-up at the center.

The Council Oak Tree Ceremony is sponsored by the TCIC and Muscogee (Creek) Nation in cooperation with the City of Tulsa.

The community center is located at 8611 S. Union. For more information, call the community center at: (918) 298-2464; or (918) 596-1098.

Third Muscogee Film Festival being held at OSU-Tulsa

TULSA—The third Muscogee Film Festival, an event of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is being held Nov. 17 and 18 at Oklahoma State University-Tulsa.

"Unfortunately, audiences in Oklahoma rarely have the opportunity to view Native American-produced films. With November being designated as National Native American Indian Heritage Month, as well as Nov. 20 having been officially recognized as Oklahoma Native American Day in the State of Oklahoma, it certainly is timely and appropriate to expose Oklahomans to good, Native American-produced films," Gerald



Wofford, festival coordinator, said.

The film festival will be held at the OSU-Tulsa Auditorium located at 700 N. Greenwood Ave.

All proceeds from the festival benefit the Muscogee Nation Communications Department-administered Native American Film Scholarship fund — an award to be given to an outstanding Native American student pursuing a career in the fields of film and video production. The scholarship application process will begin in January 2001.

For more information, contact Wofford at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 220; or e-mail comm1@ocevnet.org.

"Creek/Muskogee" dictionaries available through University of Nebraska Press in Lincoln

LINCOLN, Neb.—Orders for "A Dictionary of Creek/Muskogee" may be placed through the University of Nebraska Press.

The dictionary, by Jack B. Martin and Margaret McKane Mauldin, contains over 7,000 Creek-English entries, over 4,000 English-Creek entries, and over 400 Creek placement names in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Oklahoma.

The hardcover book, priced at \$60, features 396 pages, 14 illustrations, map. Its ISBN is: 0-8032-3207-1

To order the book, call: 1 (800) 755-1105; or write, University of Nebraska Press, 233 N. 8th St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0255.

Letters to the editor

Citizen takes issue with tribal employees

Editor:

During my unannounced visit—Sept. 11—to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex, most of the Creek Nation employees with whom information was being obtained were very courteous and helpful.

This article is being addressed to those employees who let a little authority go to their head by being sarcastic with unbecoming attitudes toward Creek citizens seeking assistance.

After returning to my community and speaking with other Creek citizens about certain employees, the fact remains that many people are very upset about employees who feel that they have tenured jobs within Creek Nation and do not have to adhere to procedures and policies which, in some cases, can't be found or do not exist.

Citizens within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are waiting and watching to see how the top echelon will continue to ignore the employees who do not treat visiting people with courtesy and speak rude to them.

Having read many concerns about our Creek people's quest for improvement in all areas of employment there is—room for improvement.

Sue Dalgarn, Eufaula

Man makes inquiry into laws

Editor:

Almost daily we hear complaints about mismanagement within the Muscogee Nation communities. What are the possibilities of requesting help from the attorney general of the Muscogee Nation? Where do citizens of the Muscogee Nation turn to question possible mismanagement of their community leaders?

There are several possibilities to look at when identifying those who have faltered in their leadership.

However, there is the potential of missing something and not covering all the bases. In looking at possible corrective measures, members of the Muscogee Nation must look at what possible legal remedies are available, if any. Of course, before an approach to a certain situation can be taken, all of the facts must be in place. Facts are what people in the legal field look to in order to justify their approach to any given legal question. This is not written to accuse or discredit any certain individual or groups—nor is it written to give legal advice. This is written in hopes that Muscogee citizens will do what they think is necessary in order to hold leaders accountable for their mistakes.

Only if the people have faith in those who govern them will there be any assemblage or order. The citizens of the Muscogee Nation must have faith in those whom they elect to oversee their respective communities. Furthermore, that faith is bound to be shattered when high officials purportedly engage in activities which arouse suspicions of malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance.

These terms may describe an abuse of governmental authority. Furthermore, malfeasance, misfeasance and nonfeasance fit only when there has been alleged conduct that violated clearly established law when the conduct occurred. There is the question of whether or not there is a law within the Muscogee Nation defining punishment in reference to malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance of office.

If there is not a law within the Muscogee Nation covering abuse of governmental authority, what possible remedy is there for an individual to turn to? I would suggest looking in the area of the Indian Civil Rights Act. From what I understand, this act was enacted to protect tribal citizens from abuses perpetrated by those vested with power within their own tribal government.

Be that as it may, the question then—when referring to the Indian Civil Rights Act—is: Is it a violation of a clearly established Constitutional right?

If there is no law within the Muscogee Nation covering malfeasance, misfeasance, and nonfeasance to those with vested authority, it can be assumed that the theory of see no evil, speak no evil and hear no evil applies to all communities within the Muscogee Nation. And those who are suspected of mismanagement will profit.

Richard E. "Rick" Wilde, Tulsa

September district court filings

Protective orders:

Glennice Baker vs. Christopher Baker
Victoria Kelly vs. Jay Dee Harley

Civil:

Western Sun Federal vs. David Proctor
Creditors Recovery Corp. vs. Virginia Nichwander
First Family Credit vs. Katherine Willie
First Family Credit vs. Tonette McCarroll

Criminal:

Sandow Wilson—public intoxication

Second opinion

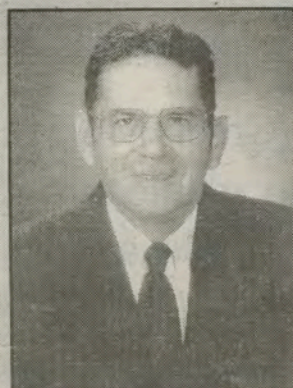
by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

The month of September has been a very busy month. Our new fiscal year starts on the first day of October and all tribal budgets must be in place.

Hopefully our citizens won't hear the old phrase—"we don't have any money"—at least for awhile.

On Sept. 6, I visited with elders at Muscogee Indian Community. This group was comprised mostly of the Senior Services Advisory Board with members from several different sites—if not all.

On Sept. 13 and 14, I toured the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Reservation in Philadelphia Mississippi. This was a trip to learn about their huge economic development projects. This small tribe, which numbers at about 8000 people, is known world wide as the most progressive tribe in America. They have large manufacturing plants where they make parts for Ford Motor Company; this one plant employs 700 people. Across the road is a plant that makes wiring harnesses for Chrysler Motor Corporation. This manufacturing plant employs over



Ellis

1200 people. There are many more.

The Muscogee Nation may not be as successful as these people, but we are much more stable and reliable than most other tribes in America. You only have to look out west and at some of the northern tribes to see that the Muscogee Nation and our citizens are well represented with tribal programs and leadership.

I also attended the Creek Festival in Macon, Georgia on Sept. 16. The original homeland of our people is a beautiful place. The Creek National Monument is just across the Okmulgee River from Macon and is dedicated to the Muscogee people. Burial mounds on the property and the modern museums are full of Muscogee history dating back several thousand years. Everyone should attempt to see this living history of our people as well as the land that was once the Muscogee Confederacy in Georgia.

On Nov. 11 a Veterans Day program will be held at the Mvskoke Veterans Commemorative Monument located on the tribal capitol complex grounds. All Muscogee veterans and their families are encouraged to attend. Let's all honor our military men and women who served this country in time of war.

Also, the Muscogee Nation will be hosting the quarterly meeting of the Intertribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes in Tulsa on Oct. 12 and 13.

Until next month—*Mvto*.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the Sept. 30 regular session.

In Council business it:

- approved unanimously (21-0) Tribal Resolution 00-39, confirming the nomination of **Della Cherry** to serve on the Muscogee Nation Citizenship Board;

Cherry is a tribal citizen residing in Holdenville;

- approved unanimously (21-0) TR 00-40, approving the selection of contractors for rehabilitation repair work for the housing authority to execute contracts for such major rehabilitation repair work;

- approved (21-0) TR 00-41, authorizing the Bureau of Indian Affairs to conduct prescribed burning projects on tribal trust lands. The burning is intended to reduce hazardous fuels and manipulate vegetation on tribal restricted and allotted lands;

- tabled National Council Act 00-136, establishing the special academic/extracurricular program under the human development division and repealing NCA 97-109 and all amendments thereto;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-137, authorizing a special appropriation to pay outstanding debts incurred by the children and family services program. The outstanding invoices, totalling \$527, are from previous years for programs which have been closed out;

- approved (22-0) NCA 00-138, authorizing the principal chief to request the Checotah Indian Community property be placed in trust. The Checotah land, purchased by the community, will be used for economic development purposes;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-140, authorizing the office of the tax commission a budget modification exceeding 10 percent of its original budget;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-141, authorizing the office of the National Council/legislative branch a budget modification exceeding 10 percent of its original budget;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-145, amending NCA 00-65 to carry over unexpended funds for removing two vacant and abandoned buildings;

- approved unanimously (21-1) NCA 00-146, approving the revised Fiscal Year 98 Indian Housing Plan;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-148, amending NCA 92-14, as amended by NCA 99-04, to add the crimes of tribal tax evasion, misuse of vendor's sales licenses and false application to the criminal offenses code;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-149, amending NCA 99-02, as amended by NCA 00-46, to establish a new effective date for the sales tax code within the Muscogee Nation and other purposes;

- approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-150, approving a "special counsel contract" between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and **Geoffrey Standingbear, P.C.**, attorney at law. **Standingbear**, experienced in legal counsel pertaining to gaming, Indian law, and unique laws pertaining to the Nation, will be utilized by the gaming operations authority board;

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-151, appropriating funds for certain administrative and operational costs of the Muscogee (Creek) Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority. The act appropriates \$105,000 for initial administrative and operation activities (i.e., travel, training, research, stipends, and consultant fees) of the board.

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-152, amending NCA 00-125 (a bill of the Muscogee Nation approving the comprehensive annual budget for FY 2001) and providing for appropriations. This act allows for modification of the following budgets: roads program to a single line item budget for construction costs; establishing a budget for the roads force account; office of environmental services by the appropriation of compacted Self Governance funds; increasing the budgets of the children and family services department for increased grant funds; increasing the budget of the gaming operations authority board; providing funding for the family drug court counselor; authorizing a line item budget for the tribal construction engineer; and providing for the authorization of expenditures in accordance with all such appropriations.

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-153, authorizing a special appropriation for Creek Chapel Methodist Church. The act provides onetime funding in the amount of \$700 for Creek Chapel's church revival and fourth Sunday meeting to be held during the week of Oct. 2.

- approved unanimously (21-0) NCA 00-156, authorizing a special appropriation for the 52nd reunion of the Euchee Boarding School;

- approved (21-1) NCA 00-157, amending NCA 00-58 (adjusting the compensation paid to the speaker of the National Council). The purpose of this act amends the language contained in NCA 00-58 to clarify that the position of Speaker is not that of a tribal employee, but established by the Muscogee Nation Constitution.

Editor's note: These are the unofficial results of the Sept. 30 regular session of the Muscogee National Council. They will not be official until approved by the Council.

National Congress of American Indians holding 57th session in Minnesota

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The National Congress of American Indians, the country's oldest and largest organization of tribal nations, will host one of its largest gatherings of tribal leaders Nov. 12 through 17.

The 57th Annual Session will take place at the Touchstone Energy Place at RiverCentre.

"The timing of this meeting will be perfect for tribal leaders to discuss the results of the November elections and make plans for engaging the new administration and Congress," said Susan Masten, President of NCAI and Chair of the Yurok Tribe. "Indian Nations are heavily affected by federal policies, so we want to be sure that

during the transition the new elected leaders gain a clear understanding of tribal sovereignty and self-reliance."

A large turnout of tribal leaders who will be discussing dozens of key issues is expected by NCAI. The Minneapolis area tribes are serving as the host for this annual session.

Other major events will include

a special session sponsored by America Online that will focus on the "Digital Divide" in Indian Country and the challenges involved in bringing new communications technologies to Indian communities.

There will also be a trade show held on site throughout the week which will include hundreds of vendors

of American Indian arts, clothing and jewelry, as well as information from dozens of companies and agencies who serve Indian Country. On Nov. 16 one of NCAI's major sponsors, the Bank of America, will host a gala banquet.

Other special events for the week include: a "Youth Track" leadership training

program; a welcoming reception Nov. 12; the Miss NCAI pageant on Nov. 13; a youth luncheon on Nov. 14; a women's honoring luncheon on Nov. 15; and a cultural celebration on Nov. 15.

For more information, contact the NCAI offices at: (202) 466-7767 or visit its web site at www.ncai.org.

Chief issues ban on outdoor burning through most of jurisdictional boundaries

By virtue of the Executive power invested in in the Office of the Principal Chief by the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, it is hereby ordered that the following be adopted:

1.00 Findings:

1.01 Effective August 23, 2000, Governor Frank Keating issued a Ban on Outdoor Burning for much of the State of Oklahoma, including counties within the Creek Nation—Creek, Hughes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Seminole, Tulsa, Wagner, and Okmulgee.

1.02 The Oklahoma Red Flag Fire Alert includes a Wildland Fire Danger in the Very High to Extreme category—therefore a ban on outdoor burning is in effect for the counties within the Creek Nation jurisdiction (excluding charcoal cooking).

1.03 As broadly defined in Title 2, Section 1301-206 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the term "unlawful burning" is applied to both land cover and point sources such as campfires and trash fires. It also applies to other ignition sources for any land-cover fire. Two basic principles apply to all of these situations:

—individuals are responsible for their actions and the result of their activities; and,

—reasonable caution must be exercised with respect to emergency drought conditions and extra precautionary measures must be taken to prevent and suppress all wildfires.

2.00 Authority/Action:

2.01 I hereby issue this Ban on Outdoor Burning effective immediately for the counties cited herein.

3.00 Distributed:

3.01 Copies of this Executive Order shall be distributed to all branches of tribal government and Independent agencies.

3.02 The Community Development Department of the Muscogee Nation is hereby directed to post this executive order in all Creek Community Centers and Community Smokeshops within seven days of the enactment of this executive order.

Editor's note: Executive order 00-19 was directed to be implemented by Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver on Sept. 21. The order was printed at the request of the office of the principal chief.

Programs-notices

Human development holding open house

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Division of Human Development is holding an open house from 3 to 5 p.m., Oct. 10 at the human development building located on the tribal capitol complex.

Its departments include: Johnson O'Malley; higher education; employment and training; Eufaula Dormitory; Head Start; and cultural preservation.

Samplings of traditional Maskoke food will be served. Door prizes will be given out.

Répondez sil vous plaît (RSVP) at (918)756-8700, ext. 609.

Insurance available through housing authority

OKMULGEE—Amerind Financial Services is offering two homeowners insurance programs for Native Americans through the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation.

The Community Shield and Native American Shield Programs allow homeowners to choose the limits and what type of coverage is needed. These programs have considerably lower rates compared to most state insurance companies.

The housing authority offers two options for coverage with the Community Shield Program—a renter's policy for personal content coverage only and one policy with predetermined limits for privately owned homes. Eligibility for coverage requires that the applicant be an enrolled tribal citizen of any recognized tribe living within the Creek Nation jurisdiction. The Native American Shield program is offered to homebuyers with higher or special limits for coverage. Photos should be provided along with a completed application to the housing authority. Information will be forwarded to AFSI for premium quote.

For more information, contact Lenora Yahola at (918) 756-8504 or 1 (800) 259-5050.

Access to Trail of Tears Overlook closed

FORT SMITH, Ark.—Because of a decision by the Fort Smith Railroad of Peoria, Ill., visitors to the Fort Smith National Historic site will no longer be able to access the Belle Point area of the park.

As of Aug. 30 there is no safe public crossing over two sets of tracks operated by the Fort Smith Railroad. The railroad has also notified the park that they will erect barriers preventing anyone from crossing the tracks. The Fort Smith Railroad's decision to block the tracks was made shortly after the park and the

Employees of the month for March, April, and June recognized

March—Tillie Noon-Tomah

OKMULGEE—Marth Noon-Tomah was selected as March employee of the month.

She is the supervisor of the social service department. She supervises caseworkers, monitors caseloads, reviews cases, reviews budgets, and maintains operations within the department. Her main concern is to make sure that programs are in compliance with guidelines and regulations.

Tomah has been employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for eight years. The most rewarding aspect of her position—"when a job is completed and you can actually have helped someone and you know that you have made a difference in their life."

Tomah has a bachelor's degree.

She is the granddaughter of Alabama-Quassartee Tribal Town. Tomah is a metalsmith that has been researching Mvskoke art for the past 15 years. She said she is the only full-blood female Mvskoke that replicates this work in her medium. She is also a committee member for the Peabody Museum in Andover, Mass.

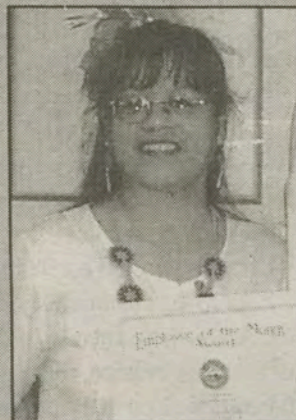
She enjoys playing pool and has studied Tae Kwon Do for 10 years.

She has two children, Leanna, a senior at the University of Oklahoma, and Kelly, a senior at Weleetka High School.

April—Jeff Frank

OKMULGEE—Jeff Frank was selected as April employee of the month.

His job responsibilities as a maintenance worker are to care for and maintain properties and facilities



Noon-Tomah

of the Nation. He has been employed with tribe for one year.

The most rewarding aspect of his job is getting to know his fellow employees

Frank graduated from Glenpool High School and attended Tulsa Community College.

He enjoys going to concerts, sporting events, fishing, lifting weights, and getting involved with youth sports and activities.

He is the son of Florence and Newman Frank Jr. He has one sister, Dala, and one brother, Trevor.

June employee of the month

OKEMAH—Rosie Hicks was selected as June employee of the month.

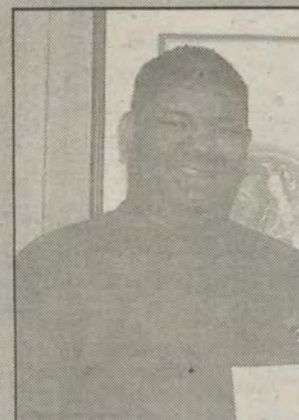
As cook for the Okemah Child Development Center Hicks prepares breakfast, lunch as well as snacks for the center youth. She has been employed with the tribe for one year.

She said the most rewarding aspect of her job is serving her community.

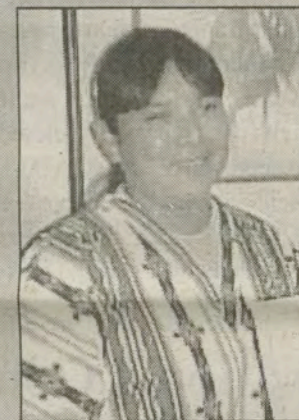
Hicks attended Weleetka Public Schools.

She enjoys making beadwork.

She is married to Jimmy and has one son, J.J.



Frank



Hicks

Program holds in-service training



photo by Denise Jacobs

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, background addresses JOM school program staff at an in-service training held on Sept. 20 at the tribal complex.

railroad received a letter from a visitor complaining that the track crossing violated the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The two tracks run through the center of the Fort Smith National Historic Site's property. In the past it was a short walk from the parking lot, across the tracks, to Belle Point and the paved trail along the Arkansas River.

The only other access to Belle Point, via the City of Fort Smith's Harry E. Kelley Riverfront Park, will not be available until January.

Belle Point is the site of the original Fort Smith, established in 1817. In 1963 archeologists uncovered the foundations of the fort which are on display today. Both audio and visual exhibits are located at the site. There is also a scenic walkway along the Arkansas River. As part of the park's recent rehabilitation project, a Trail of Tears Overlook was built with wayside panels dedicated to the story of the removal of the Five Tribes.

Superintendent Bill Black said, "we just unveiled these panels at our reopening ceremonies on June 24, with representatives of all the tribes present. We spent three years of consultation with the tribes in developing these new exhibits and it is very upsetting that as

a result of the Fort Smith Railroad's action the public can no longer access the exhibits.

Obviously we are very disappointed in the Fort Smith Railroad's decision. The Arkansas and Missouri Railroad, that operates on an adjacent set of tracks that also runs through the park, has maintained a safe handicap accessible crossing for 10 years. We hope the Fort Smith Railroad will reconsider their decision so that the American public can enjoy their national park."

For more information, contact Black at (501)783-3961.

Native men and women's tourney being held

EDMOND—The Fifth Annual Adam's Course Native American Men and Women's Basketball Tournament is being held Oct. 20 and 21 at 14701 N. Kelley.

The \$175 entry fee is due by Oct. 13 or first 10 paid teams. Late entry fee is \$50 until October 17. The nonrefundable fee is payable by cashier's check or money order to: Tinker Inter-tribal Council; P.O. Box 45608; Tinker AFB; OK 73145-0608.

For more information, call: (405) 736-2128 until 3 p.m.; or (405) 733-5485 after 4 p.m.

Muscogee People

Muscogee artist-fire marshal finds balance in life

by Gerald Wofford

A renaissance man is termed as someone who preserves or revives art or literature during his time—especially within his culture. Seeking overall balance in life—the contemporary renaissance man is driven to achieve professionally and also has a heartfelt need to fulfill his cultural identity.

Bob Hardridge fits the definition of modern Muscogee (Creek) renaissance man. Hardridge is a civic leader and has had an influence on the tribe also. He is currently the City of Okmulgee Fire Marshal. He has also served as an Okmulgee District Representative to the Muscogee National Council.

While not fulfilling professional duties, this man has been known as an artist, displaying his work on canvas through the mediums of acrylic and oil. "I like to paint pictures that depict wildlife or western themes," said Hardridge. He credits his father, the late Jesse Hardridge, for encouraging him to pursue his talent. "When I was little, my father bought me an art set—full of different paint colors and brushes; being little, all I wanted was toys. So I didn't have much need for this art set. After a while though, I opened it and began to draw and paint animals and found something I really liked." Hardridge said that his father, also an artist, helped lead him in the right direction.

As he became more adept in his artistic abilities, he was invited to show his work at an art exhibit. Another Muscogee artist, who would later gain fame through films and television, was also displaying his work—Will "Sonny" Sampson.



"Boy, I thought I really had arrived when my artwork was being displayed with Sonny—which he actually helped me with. He was really a good artist."

As Hardridge grew older, he would also find the world of rodeo as an important outlet in his life. Hardridge participated in rodeos on the professional circuit for eight years and twice qualified for the National Finals Rodeo. He also participated in the Indian rodeo circuit as well. This time in his life also had a major influence on his art work.

"I worked on a ranch and would often see something humorous happen to one of the ranch hands, I would set down and paint that experience."

Hardridge, who belongs to the Bear Clan and Ceyahv Tribal Town, looks to his family for true inspiration. He has two children, Ginger, age 21, and Drew, age 19.

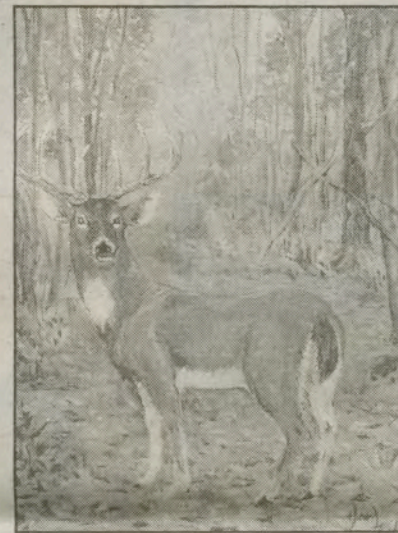
"My family is very important to me," said Hardridge, who sees his children growing up in a completely different world than that of his own.

"My mom's side of the family grew up on that big mountain west of town. There was a lot of kids and sometimes I'll visit the old place with my son when we go hunting. I'll stand and think about all the noises, all the laughter, and all the crying—like when you fall out of a tree [and] those Indian women coming out of the back door to comfort you or the Indian men coming to scold you. ... now, years later, I stand there and realize my children may not know that. Being of Indian descent, they'll not know those close-knit

family ties. As you move into the non-Indian world, life can become a lot faster. I'm glad I didn't forget those things, because that doesn't occur like it used to. I enjoy going to a traditional Indian home and sitting and talking with the elders on the porch and it makes that feeling come back, but I know it's getting less and less as time goes by and it's a very sad feeling."

Since assuming the position of fire marshal, Hardridge has seen the worst city fires in the town's history and has dedicated himself to making sure the Okmulgee Fire Department is ready for any emergency. At the same time, Hardridge takes time to maintain the balance between being an Indian working in a non-Indian world.

"I grew up and worked, and went to school in the main stream of life and you have to adapt. But thinking back to what some of the elders talked about is holding on to who you are. I'm hoping that's what I've done when I stop and give advice to my children. Not so much from what's read out of a text, but what comes out of your heart."



Hardridge does not see himself as someone unique, but tells anyone of American Indian descent that they can make it in any world if they wish, Indian or non-Indian.

Apology

continued from page 1

of his speech late Thursday and the White House did not object to it.

Canada's government has formally apologized for abuses in government-run boarding schools for Indians, but has rejected calls for a boarder apology. Australian Prime Minister John Howard also has rebuffed repeated calls for an apology to that country's Aboriginal population for similar abuses there.

Gover recited a litany of wrongs the BIA inflicted on Indians since its creation as the Indian Office of the War Department. Estimates vary widely, but the agency is believed responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Indians.

"This agency participated in the ethnic cleansing that befell the Western tribes," Gover said. "It must be acknowledged that the deliberate spread of disease, the decimation of the mighty bison herds, the use of the poison alcohol to destroy mind and body, and the cowardly killing of women and children made for tragedy on a scale so ghastly that it cannot be dismissed as merely the inevitable consequence of the clash of competing ways of life."

The misery continued after the BIA became part of the Interior Department in 1849, Gover said. Children were brutalized in BIA-run boarding schools, Indian languages and religious practices were banned and traditional tribal governments were eliminated, he said. The high rates of

alcoholism, suicide and violence in Indian communities today are the result, he said.

"Poverty, ignorance and disease have been the product of this agency's work," Gover said.

Now, 90 percent of the BIA's 10,000 employees are Indian and the agency has changed into an advocate for tribal governments.

"Never again will we attack your religions, your languages, your rituals, or any of your tribal ways," Gover promised. "Never again will we seize your children, nor teach them to be ashamed of who they are. Never again."

Dialogue

continued from page 1

guests were raking the very idea of apologies over the coals.

One speaker at the Third Annual Native American Ecumenical Dialogue characterized apologies to Indians as essentially— "Gee, I'm sorry. Can I keep your land?"

That's a form of cheap grace, insisted the Rev. George Tinker, an Osage, Lutheran clergyman and professor at United Methodist-related Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colo.

"We have two healing jobs, ours and our brothers and sisters," he continued. "We can't give up our spirituality as we did our land. Before we attempt reconciliation with our white relatives we need to dig deeply into our spirituality."

Spirituality, the ecumenical dialogue's principal theme, wasn't addressed explicitly by the federal agency's chief

executive, Kevin Gover, a Pawnee and native of Lawton, Okla. But its deep meaning to Native people was not hard to infer from his remarks, which two dialogue speakers quoted at some length. It was almost as if the bureaucrat and the ecumenical dialogue were in some kind of electronic "chat room." In Oklahoma City, person after person told how he or she or his or her parents or grandparents had been sent away to BIA-run boarding schools.

"Legally kidnapped," one described it. Others told of being punished for speaking tribal languages or attempting to practice tribal rituals. One person added this interesting twist: "Our parents never had a chance to learn how to be parents."

Church-related mission schools fared no better in dialogue participants' stories. Many described themselves as having been "missionized" in those schools.

Anne Marshall, an associate general secretary in the United Methodist agency, led the planning team for this dialogue. A Muscogee and native Oklahoman, she told the final session, "Europeans [whites] and African-Americans discuss reconciliation as including power, privilege, and prestige. We add a fourth P: Permission. You don't have to ask permission to be Indian. For Native people, integrity is the very basis of our being. You were Indian before you were Christian or anything else."

"To us, power is not control but the freedom to move and do. We say to our partners, 'Don't stand behind me but stand beside me. We'll do this together.'"

Okmulgee Head Start students kickoff Head Start Awareness Month

October 2nd



Okmulgee Head Start Center three year old girls, Destiny Duncan and Mikah Maynohah, participate in the singing portion of its program held to kickoff Head Start Awareness Month.



This cake, decorated with the Head Start logo with a native touch, was served at a reception following Okmulgee Head Start's kickoff for Head Start Awareness Month.



Four year old girls, Ashley Harjo, Kylee Morgan, and Michelle Dunn, sing their ABC's.

photos by Gerald Wofford



Four year old boys, Alexander Wilson and Nicholas Bonitz, take a breather from performing at the celebration of Head Start Awareness Month.



Four year old students, Katlyn Bench, Colton Factor, Terel Stephen Armour, and Christopher Morgan, sing "Long Tall Texan."



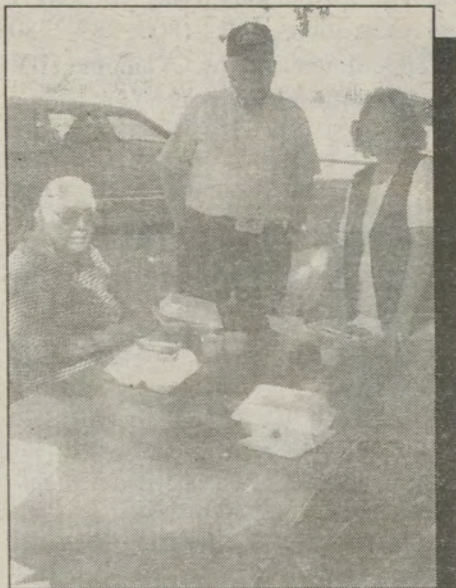
Taylor Given and Johnny Trey, ages four, follow commands to "Simon Says."



Colton Factor, age four, offers Chief R. Perry Beaver feedback on his proclamation designating October as Head Start Awareness Month.

Muskogee Seniors' Fall Festival

Sept. 29 & 30



Mahaley Jones, of Okmulgee, Muskogee District National Council Representative Harley Little, of Muskogee, and Billie Scott, of Okemah, prepare to eat lunch provided by the Okmulgee Nutrition Center staff.



George Almerigi, of Okmulgee, center, announces the winners of drawings while Phillip Coon, of Sapulpa, left, and Dugin McIntosh, of Eufaula, right, assist.



Alice Freeman, of Morris, plays bingo at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center as part of the fall festival Friday afternoon activities.

photos by Denise Jacobs



Henryetta Marshall, of Eufaula, far left, and Pauline Haney, of Glenpool, foreground, look at beadwork made by Eufaula Indian Community members Wanda Billings, left, and Christine McIntosh, right, both of Eufaula.



Eileen Hobia, of Holdenville, far right, has her blood pressure checked by volunteer John Bigpond, of Bristow, as Community Health Representative Susanne Franklin, of Eufaula, supervises.



Phillip Coon addresses the crowd about issues affecting elders.



Fall festival speaker Rev. William Alexander, of Oakhurst, and his daughter, Mary Sue Peak, a Tulsa District National Council Rep., of Tulsa, relax under the shade at the festival.

Notices

Oklahoma establishes college savings plan

OKLAHOMA CITY—Oklahoma has established a College Savings Plan which will allow money to be saved and invested for college expenses with tax benefits.

The program takes advantage of federal tax law to allow Oklahomans to receive tax benefits when saving for college. People setting up accounts don't pay income tax on their investment earnings from their accounts. The accounts operate like an IRA for retirement. Income tax is only paid when money is withdrawn to pay for college expenses and then the tax rate is based on the college student's tax rate—which is almost always lower than the parent's rate. Oklahoma's program also creates similar tax treatment for Oklahoma income taxes.

In addition to the tax benefits, the program is designed to be flexible as to choice of college. The program is available whether the child attends an in-state or out-of-state college, a private or public college, a two or four-year institution, or post-secondary vocational technical instruction.

The Oklahoma College Savings Program offers families flexibility in regard to how much they want like to save for a child's education. The program permits families to save the full amount of their children's education, including room and board. The program

allows families to make small periodic contributions to their kids' college savings accounts. Families may save as little as \$15 per month. Automatic payroll deductions for these contributions are available.

For more information, call: 1 (877) 654-7284; or visit the web site at www.ok4saving.org.

Oklahoma HIV Conference being held

OKLAHOMA CITY—The Oklahoma HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) Conference will be held Oct. 18 and 19 at the Westin Hotel located at 1 North Broadway.

This year's Oklahoma HIV Conference will assist Oklahomans in dealing with the challenges of living with HIV/AIDS and behavior change to reduce risk of infection with HIV.

The two-day conference provides educational information on a wide range of HIV/AIDS topics, including: community level prevention; HIV and women; clinical trials; HIV treatment update; adhering to complex treatment regimens; benefit eligibility and returning to the work force; and TB/AIDS co-infection.

Keynote speakers include: Donna Sweet, M.D. who will speak on "Current Perspectives in HIV Care;" and Seth Kalichman, Ph.D., whose keynote address will be "What is Working in HIV Prevention." Mohammad Bilal, a former cast member of MTV's "Real World" who has become a voice for HIV awareness among youth, is the scheduled luncheon speaker.

Oklahoma State Department of Health HIV/STD Service Chief William R. Pierson said 3,569 Oklahomans were reported as currently living with HIV or AIDS as of June 30, 2000. "The conference offers a forum within which HIV/AIDS service providers, educators, and people living with HIV disease may address critical issues related to HIV prevention, treatment and care," said Pierson.

The conference registration is \$75. Limited scholarships are available for persons living with HIV/AIDS. For hotel reservations, call 1 (800) 285-2780 or (405) 235-2780 and mention the Oklahoma HIV Conference. For more information, contact Oklahoma HIV/AIDS Hotline at: 1 (800) 535-AIDS; e-mail, hotline@ionet.net.

YWCA observes week without violence

TULSA—Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry and the Young Women's Christian Association encourage churches to help set the stage for the YWCA's local Week Without Violence.

Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry and YWCA encourage the incorporating of some activity—prayer, reading, printed matter in the order of service, candle lighting, reflection, etc.—in worship services between Oct. 20 and 22 to remember those who have died from violent acts this year.

For more information, contact: James W. Robinson, TMM Operations/associate director, at: (918) 582-3147.

27th Annual Sapulpa Indian Heritage Day



Left: Revenie Tiger of Sapulpa displays the plaque she received for winning the frybread contest.

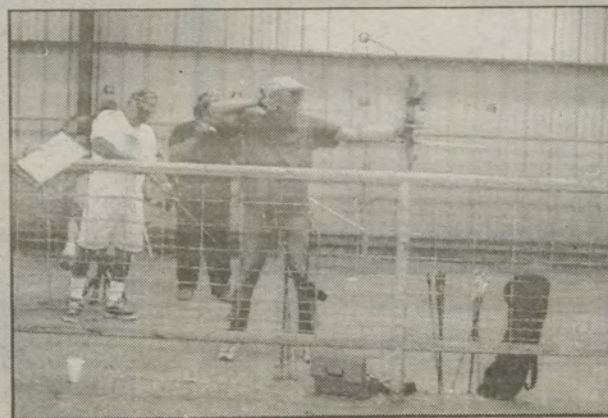
Right: Leon Bell of Shawnee participates in the horse shoe contest.



photos by Denise Jacobs

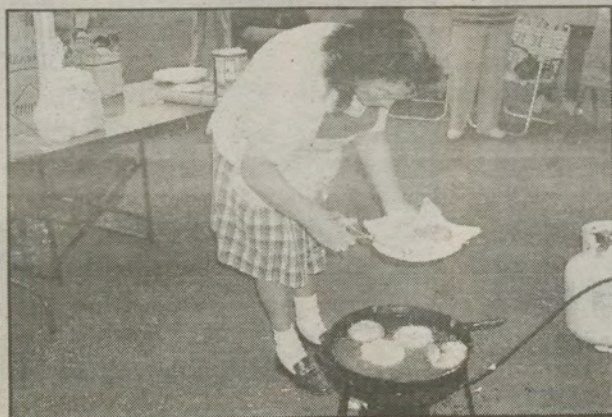


Above: Julia Winingham of Sapulpa displays her native-influenced arts and crafts while Thelma Cahwee of Sapulpa looks at them.



Left: Johnnie Hicks, of Okemah, won first place in the bow shooting contest.

Right: Tiger takes out her winning frybread.



Education

Citizen receives certification of completion

WOODS HOLE, Mass.—Tribal citizen Anne R. Greenlee, Ph.D., has recently received a certification of completion from the Marine Biological Laboratory for having successfully completed the course titled "Frontiers in Reproduction: Molecular and Cellular Concepts and Application."

The objective of the six-week session was to provide comprehensive training in research strategies and state-of-the-art methods in cellular immunological and molecular biological approaches for advancing the frontiers of reproduction.

The course consisted of lectures, demonstrations and additional conferences for resident and invited worldwide recognized scientists in related fields. Sixteen students from a pool of 72 applicants were chosen to participate in this course.

Dr. Greenlee is on the staff of the Marshfield Medical Research Foundation, Marshfield, Wis. She is the research scientist, heading the toxicology laboratory which investigates the possible effects of environmental contaminants on reproductive outcomes—fertility, pregnancy, and prostate cancer.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Greenlee of Tulsa.



Greenlee

Woman receives bachelor's degree

NORMAN—Stephanie Large graduated on from the University of Oklahoma on May 6 with a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology with a minor in history.

She is currently enrolled in graduate school at OU where she is pursuing a master's degree in social work.

Large, her husband, Chad, and son, Caleb, reside in Okay where she is employed part time by the Okay Head Start program.

Large is the daughter of Suzanne Chaney. She is the granddaughter of Jackson Steele and Barbara Chaney and the great-granddaughter of the late Dora Steele Colbert Chaney.

Student graduates from Varnum Public Schools

SEMINOLE—John Leo Rosin Jr. graduated from Varnum Public Schools on May 12.

Rosin was adept in computer technology classes and was active in various student activities.

He is of Euchee-Creek-Cherokee descent. Rosin is the son of Annie Bucktrot Rosin of Seminole and John Rosin of Sallisaw.

His maternal grandparents are Betsy Harper of Seminole and the late Tony Bucktrot of Bristow.

Matilda Rosin of Sallisaw and the late Carl Rosin are his paternal grandparents.

He is currently employed by the Seminole Nation Travel Plaza and plans to attend the DeVry Technical Institute in Oklahoma City.

Broken Arrow citizen named Switzer Scholar

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—Lahoma Schultz has been

Euchee Mission alumni holding reunion

OKMULGEE—Euchee Mission School alumni are holding a reunion from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 21 at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex.

The agenda includes:

- 9 to 10 a.m.—coffee and rolls;
- 10 a.m. to noon—Euchee Memory Bank documentation taping, Jim Hubbard;
- noon to 2 p.m.—lunch, LeAnn High; introductions and recognitions, Gene Leitka; open microphone; prize drawings and auction, Jerry Haney;
- 2 to 2:30 p.m.—Return to Philippines, Phillip Coon;
- 2:30 to 3 p.m.—Sapulpa Historical Society Euchee Collection, Doris Yocham, president;
- 3 to 4 p.m.—Visit with friends; Indian songs, George

Bunny; and

- 4 p.m.—Discussion of 2001 reunion.

All Euchee Mission alumni and friends of the school are invited to attend. The program is expected to begin with coffee and rolls at 9 a.m. and will end about 5 p.m.

The reunion is dedicated to Alene Sessions, a Euchee Mission teacher from 1938 through 1943.

A golf tourney at Sapulpa Municipal Golf Course will begin at 9 a.m. on Oct. 20. For information regarding the golf tourney, call: Jess Freeman at (405) 799-7305; or John Freeman at (918) 744-8630.

For more reunion information, contact Gene Leitka at (505) 299-5231.

selected to be an honorary Switzer Scholar in rehabilitation for 2000.

Only 20 persons from the U.S. were chosen this year for their leadership, expertise, and achievements in the subject matter of this year's topic entitled, "Emerging Workforces Issues: W.I.A., 'Ticket to Work,' and Partnerships."

Switzer Scholars participate in a three-day strategic discussion where they offer and examine new approaches and paradigms to enhance the employment and independence of persons with disabilities.

The Switzer Memorial Seminars are a vital program of the National Rehabilitation Association which serves as a living tribute to the memory of Mary E. Switzer. Switzer developed and directed many innovative federal and state programs as NRA Commissioner, as the first head of Social and Rehabilitative Services, and as vice president of the World Rehabilitation Fund.

The recommendations of the 22nd Annual Switzer Memorial Seminar will be broadly disseminated as a published report directed to a wide audience of consumers, decision makers, member of the U.S. Congress, employers, educators, and others interested in persons with disabilities in their quest for independence and equality of opportunity.

Schultz, a resident of Broken Arrow, is currently enrolled as a doctoral student in the counseling psychology program at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

She is the daughter of George Hicks.

Fellowship program accepting applications

OAK RIDGE, Tenn.—Applications for the 2001-2002 competition for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program are now available.

The NSF will award approximately 900 new graduate research fellowships to support graduate study in science, mathematics and engineering. The NSF contracts with Oak Ridge Associated Universities to provide the support services for the fellowship program.

Each three-year fellowship provides a stipend of \$16,800 for a 12-month tenure and a cost-of-education allowance of \$10,500 per tenure year. Graduate Research Fellowships are awarded on the basis of merit.

The deadline for applying is Nov. 7.

For more information, contact: NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program; ORAU, P.O. Box 3010; Oak Ridge, TN 37831-3010; call, (865) 241-4300; e-mail, nsfgrfp@ornl.gov; or fax (865) 241-4513.

Ford fellowships for minorities available

WASHINGTON—Approximately 60 predoctoral, 40 dissertation, and 30 postdoctoral fellowships sponsored

by the Ford Foundation and administered by the National Research Council are available for minorities.

Eligibility requirements include applicants be: U.S. citizen or national; Native American Indian; or Mexican American/Chicana/Chicano; or Alaskan Native (Eskimo or Aleut), or Native Pacific Islander (Polynesian or Micronesian); or Black/African American, or Puerto Rican; and planning a career in teaching and research at the college or university level.

Stipends and allowances are: predoctoral—\$15,500 to the fellow, institutional allowance of \$8,500 for three years; dissertation—\$24,000 for one year; and postdoctoral—\$35,000 for one year, \$3,000 travel and relocation allowance, \$2,000 cost-of-research allowance, \$2,500 employing institution allowance—to be matched by employing institution.

Application deadlines are as follows: predoctoral—Nov. 10; dissertation—Dec. 1; and postdoctoral—Jan. 8.

For more information, contact: Fellowship Programs Office National Research Council; 2101 Constitution Ave.; Washington, DC 20418; call, (202) 334-2872; fax, (202) 334-3419; or e-mail, infofell@nas.edu.

Training program accepting applications

LOS ANGELES, CA—The Assistant Directors Training Program is accepting applications for its class of 2001.

Established in 1965, the program is a joint venture of the Directors Guild of America and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers. Each year the program accepts approximately 10 to 25 individuals from among more than 800 applicants.

Assistant director trainees are paid to work on the sets of various feature films, television series and TV movies.

While on the set trainees learn administrative and organizational production skills including set operations, paperwork, and how to supervise cast and crew members. They also study the working conditions and collective bargaining agreements of more than twenty guild and unions. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, trainees are placed on the Southern California area qualification list as second assistant directors and become eligible for membership in the Directors Guild of America.

Eligibility requirements are listed in ADTP application. Interested individuals can download applications from www.trainingplan.org or have applications mailed to them by phoning the ADTP office at (818) 386-2545. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Nov. 13.

Society

Arrivals

Mikayla Buckley

OKMULGEE—Mikayla Lynn Buckley was born Sept. 15 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Sheila and Richard Buckley Jr. of Okmulgee.

The baby weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Her paternal grandparents are Richard Buckley of Clearview and Jackie Buckley of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor of Henryetta.

Paternal great-grandparents are Bill and Hepsy Harjo of Weleetka and the late Fannie and Sam Buckley.

Her maternal great-grandparents are Edna and the late Martin Mitchell of Henryetta and the late Lizzie Tiger.



Buckley

Robert Rudesill II

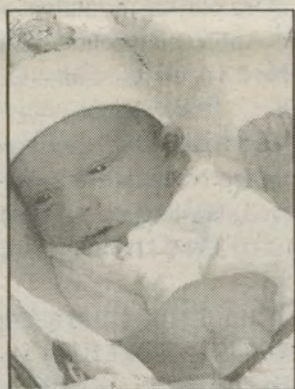
SAN DIEGO—Robert Sidney Rudesill II was born Aug. 24 at San Diego Naval Hospital to Mark and Charla Rudesill.

The baby weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 21 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Imogene and Bob Wilkinson.

His great uncle and aunt are Charlie and Jorene Coker of Schulter and Preston, respectively.

Rudesill is Hulpvtulke and belongs to Koweta Tribal Town; he has been given the Maskoke name Lvmhece.



Rudesill

Birthdays

Bristow toddler celebrates with cookout

BRISTOW—Zachary Joseph Barnett celebrated his second birthday with a cookout and "Scooby Doo" party held at his home on July 30.

Barnett turned two on July 28.

Among those attending were: his parents, Linda and Koko DeCosta of Bristow; grandparents, Rachel Barnett and Joe Barnett, both of Bristow; great-grandmother, Nicey Wilson of the Kvnicate area; his great-aunt, Lydia Taryole of Bristow; and many aunts, uncles, sib-



Barnett

Chief inducted into the Ancient, Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine

OKMULGEE—Muscogee Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver was inducted into the Ancient, Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine at the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex on Sept. 25.

The initiation was officiated by Andy Killingsworth, Illustrious Potentate of the Bedouin Shrine of Muskogee, and Don Scott, Illustrious Potentate of the Akdar Shrine of Tulsa, and Lonnie Nowlin, Illustrious Potentate of the India Temple of Oklahoma City.



photos by Gerald Wofford

Above: Chief Rabban Chuck Downing directs Beaver through honorary ceremonies of the Bedouin Temple. Gill Abee, directly behind Beaver served a second ceremonial master. Gil Graham, directly behind Abee, served as oriental guide and first ceremonial master.

Left: Beaver's wife, Mariam, officially finalizes the initiation ceremony by placing the Bedouin fez on the chief's head.

lings, and cousins.

He belongs to the Wind Clan and Kvnicate Tribal Town.

Okemah woman celebrates birthday at home

OKEMAH—Maggie Davis celebrated her birthday on Sept. 22 at her home with family and friends. She turned 29 on Sept. 28.

Davis is the daughter of Johnie and Daria Hicks of Okemah.

Her maternal grandparents are Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah. Her paternal grandparents are Charlie and Mable Davis of Broken Bow.

She has two sisters, Tina Davis and Monica Hicks and one niece, Emily Jacobs. She belongs to the Deer Clan.



Davis

Baby celebrates first birthday with cookout

OKMULGEE—J. Scot Fife Jr. celebrated his first birthday on Aug. 26 with a cookout at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center.

Fife turned one on Aug. 27.

He is the son of Thomasine and Jeff Fife of Beggs.

His maternal grandparents are Melinda Byrd of Okmulgee and Justine and Kenneth Deputee of Saint Xavier, Mont. Mary and Bill Fife of Weleetka are his paternal grandparents.

Fife's maternal great-grandparents are Mary and



Fife

James Deputy of Crow Agency, Mont. and the late Julia Harjo Byrd. The late Carmen and James Fife and the late Mr. and Mrs. David Poe are his paternal great-grandparents

Fife is of Muscogee-Crow-Chickasaw descent. He belongs to the Wind Clan and is the son of the Raccoon Clan. He has one brother, Aaron Jones, age 11.

Puerto Rico twins celebrate fifth birthday

TOA BAJA, Puerto Rico—Summer and Skyler King celebrated their fifth birthday on Sept. 8 with a party at their home.

They belong to the Sweet Potato Clan and New Tulsa Tribal Town.

Their parents are Greg and Tara King Werner.

Anna Jacobs King is their maternal grandmother. Their great-aunt is Irene Cleghorn of Tulsa.

Gail and Gordy Werner of Cannon Falls, Minn. are their paternal grandparents.

Community news

Community holding Halloween carnival

GLENPOOL—Glenpool Creek Indian Community is hosting a Halloween carnival from 6 to 9 p.m., Oct. 28 at the GCIC Activity Building.

A costume contest with four age groups will begin at 7 p.m. Carnival games with prizes for winners, as well as a cake walk, will be held. Carnival tickets may be purchased for 10 for \$1. A concessions will be available also.

The activity building is located at 13839 S. Casper in Glenpool—one fourth of a mile north of 141st and U.S. Highway 75—just southeast of the GCIC Smokeshop.

For more information, call Jacque Hill at 291-8842 or the GCIC office at 291-5300.

Bristow community holding carnival

BRISTOW—Bristow Indian is holding a Halloween party at 6 p.m., Oct. 25

The community center is located at 121 W. Lincoln—just two blocks south of Main and 1st streets.

Obituaries-religion

THELMA BARNETT

NUYAKA—Funeral Services for Thelma Jane Barnett were held Aug. 31 at Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Wayne Taryole, Wilson Hicks, and Robert Washington officiating.

Wake services were held at the church on Aug. 30.

She was born July 1, 1944 in Nuyaka to Thomas "Nick" and Winey Lowe Taryole. She died Aug. 27 in Glenpool.

Barnett grew up in the Nuyaka community and graduated from Pharoah High School. She attended Haskell Indian Junior College. She had lived in Bristow since 1980.

Barnett had been employed in the corporate office of Warehouse Market as an accountant. She had also worked as an accountant for Standard Auto Parts in Tulsa.

She was preceded in death by: her father in March 1994; her mother in December 1997; one daughter, Thomasena Barnett, in June 1991; and one great-nephew, Jason Cook, in November, 1997.

She is survived by: two sons, Thomas and Tyrone Barnett, both of the home; one brother, Newman Taryole of Bristow; and five grandchildren.

Interment was at the Taryole Family Cemetery.



Barnett

ciating.

Memorial services were held Aug. 16 at the Starr residence. Wake services were held Aug. 17 at the funeral home chapel.

He was born on Oct. 27, 1967 in Tahlequah. He died Aug. 14 in Sapulpa.

His parents were Bennie Fixico and Rose Lea Starr Ragsdale. He attended school at Graham and Muskogee public schools and graduated from Dustin Public Schools in 1986. He married Angela Killian on May 15, 1992. He was a former resident of Muskogee and had lived in Sapulpa for the last six years where he had been employed as a welder at Fabwell for the last five years.

He was a member of Little Cussetah Baptist Church and liked to fish and play softball.

He was preceded in death by: his mother; one sister, Stephanie Fixico; and grandparents, Eli and Lena Taylor Starr.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; children, Eric Starr and Brittany Starr, both of Muskogee; stepchildren, J.R., Chrystle Gayle, and Amanda Marie Drywater; his stepfather, Bennie Fixico of Okemah; two brothers, Ronnie D. Fixico of Tulsa and Dennis Taylor of Muskogee; one sister, Melanie Fixico Locust of Albuquerque, N.M.; aunts, Sally Jackson, Janey Parks, Allene Starr, Emma Factor, and Amy Reagan; one uncle, James Starr; and many relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Starr Family Cemetery.

ISREAL TECUMSEH

KVNCAE—Funeral services for Isreal Tecumseh were held Sept. 21 at Concharty United Methodist Church with Revs. Harry Long, George Miller, and Scotty Harjo officiating.

He was born Nov. 30, 1916 in the Kvncae area to Rev. Nero and Nancy Deere Tecumseh. He died Sept. 17 in Okemah.

Tecumseh lived in the Kvncae area all of his life. He was a longtime member of Concharty church.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Wisey Scott Tecumseh; and five brothers and sisters.

He is survived by: five sons, Nero Tecumseh, Willis Tecumseh, and Paul Tecumseh, all of Okmulgee, Rev. July Tecumseh of Bristow, and Ramsey Tecumseh of Winter Haven, Calif.; five daughters, Jeanette Washington of Morris, Eldean Tecumseh and Katherine Tecumseh, both of Okmulgee, Emma Jean Dominguez of Desoto, Texas, and Isabelle Tecumseh of Dallas, Texas; one sister, Mable Grayson of Bixby; and many grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Casketbearers were: Marcus Brown; Sheldon Gore; Telle Tecumseh; Geronimo Tecumseh; John Wilson; and Sherman Hill.

Interment was in the Tecumseh Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to say thank you for the food, prayers, flowers, songs, and all the help.

We would like to thank Grave Creek Baptist Church as well as the other churches for coming to the house.

Also, a special thank you is extended to: Gary and Mary Gregg, Gregg's Funeral Home; Artussee Baptist Church; Checotah Public Schools; Debbie and Larry Deere; Jimmie and Jenice Jones; Molline Beaver; Jack White; Maxine Barnett; Kenneth Carr;

Eldean Roberts; Willie Randall; Rusty Powell; Birdcreek Phillips; Allison and Lorene Phillips; Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Dowling; Jamie Upton; Eddy Barnett; Sonny and Carolyn Barnett; Rosco and Tina Barnett and the many others for all the support.

Words cannot express how much we appreciate everything that was done to help us with our loss. He was 18 years of age, but he loved gospel singing. He knew the Lord and he was always happy to see people. He will really be missed by all. May God Bless you all for everything.

Morris Bahe Family

We wish to thank everyone for their support and help during our loss.

The loss of our baby was a heart-wrenching and difficult period in our lives and without the outpouring of love and support of our family and friends we could not have held up as well as we did.

We thank everyone involved in Annabelle's short time with us and helping us send her off in a good way. Thank you for the cards, flowers, food, prayers, telephone calls, visits, and all the love and caring shown to us during this difficult period. Whenever we feel the wind, we know our little girl is near. *Mvto.*

Annabelle Hotvle Diacon Family

Religion

Butler Creek holding gospel singing

OKTAHA—Butler Creek Baptist Church is holding a gospel singing which will begin at 7 p.m., Oct. 28.

The master of ceremonies will be Curtis Kinney. All singers are encouraged to attend. Concessions will be available. All individuals are encouraged to attend and are requested to bring lawn chairs.

From U.S. Highway 69, exit east at the Wainwright exit and drive to Oktaha Road. Turn south on Oktaha Road and drive one-half of a mile; turn east at the Butler Creek church sign and drive two miles. The church is located on the south side of the road.

Trenton holding 18th annual gospel singing

HANNA—The Eighteenth Annual Trenton Baptist Church Gospel Singing will begin at 7 p.m., Oct. 28.

All singers and individuals are encouraged to attend. Concessions will be available.

From state highway 9, exit at Hanna and drive four miles south on state highway 52 and four miles west. Signs will be posted.

For more information, call Daria Hicks at (918) 623-1132.

Tookparfka holding revival in November

CALVIN—Tookparfka Baptist Church is holding a revival Nov. 13 through 17 beginning at seven nightly.

The evangelist will be Clint St. Clair.

The church is located five miles south of Horntown on state highway 75 and three and one-half miles east.

For more information, contact Charlie Frank at (405) 379-5546.

ALBERT BERRYHILL

OKEMAH—Funeral service for Albert Eugene "Gene" Berryhill were held Sept. 11 at Springfield Methodist Church with Revs. John Lowe, Walter McGirt, and James Smith officiating.

Wake services were held Sept. 9 at Baggerly-South Funeral Home Chapel and on Sept. 10 at the church.

He was born Nov. 8, 1932 to Rev. Albert and Ellis Berryhill. He died Sept. 6 because of complications associated with an operation.

He was a member of the gospel singing group "Berryhill's Quartet" which was formed in 1975. The quartet was often called upon as the masters of ceremonies and featured group at gospel singings. His favorite songs were, "I Want To Go There" and "That Old Country Church."

He was self-employed as the owner of Berryhill Tree Service.

He is survived by: his wife, La Vera; son, Albert; adopted children, Stephanie Tiemann and Blake Berryhill; one brother, Junior Berryhill; one sister, Mary Rogers; and two grandchildren, Zachary and Jarrod Tiemann.

Pallbearers were: Torrey Reyes; Clarence Yarholer; Kenton Tiemann; Jeremiah Garcia; Vernon Yarholer; and Jim Humble. Honorary pallbearers were: Bob Jackson; Sandy Barnett; and Billy Coon.

Interment was in Highland Cemetery, Okemah.

STEVEN STARR

HENRYETTA—Funeral services for Steven DeWayne Starr were held Aug. 18 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mitchell Taylor offi-

Head Start Awareness Month

Otowoskv Rakko (October)

Checotah Head Start Center, 302 B St.

For more information, call: (918) 473-0605

- Oct. 11—Students Visit Cookson Hills Head Start • Oct. 18-23—Art Show at Checotah Senior Citizens Building • 1:30 p.m., Oct. 25—Head Start Parade Starts at Main and Jefferson streets • 1 p.m., Oct. 31—Halloween Party

Okmulgee Head Start Center, 1808 N. Miami (tribal capitol complex)

For more information, call: (918) 758-1420

- Oct. 8th through 14th—Fire Prevention Week • 1 p.m., Oct. 12th—Okmulgee Fire Department Presentation • Oct. 15th through 21st—Bus Safety Week • 10:30 a.m., Oct. 20th—Students Visit Pumpkin Patch in Bixby • Oct. 23rd through 31st—Red Ribbon Week • 10 a.m., Oct. 31st—Spook Walk through tribal complex offices

Sapulpa Head Start Center, 1020 A N. Brown St.

For more information, call: (918) 248-7473

- 10 a.m., Oct. 6th—Students Visit Tulsa Rose Garden • 10 a.m., Oct. 13th—Muscogee Nation Firefighters Presentation • 10 a.m., Oct. 18th—Balloon Release in Honor of Fire Safety • 7 to 9 p.m., Oct. 27th—Carnival • 2:30 p.m., Oct. 31st—Halloween Party

Tulsa Head Start Center, 8605 S. Union

For more information, call: (918) 298-5698

- Oct. 23rd through 31st—Red Ribbon Week Celebration • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 27th—"Make A Difference Day" • 10 a.m., Oct. 31—Trick or Treating at The Gardens in Sapulpa

Wilson Head Start Center, 8867 Wilson Road

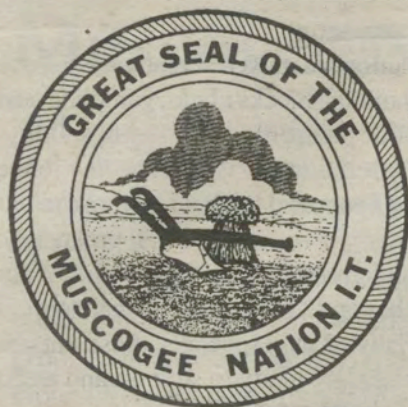
For more information, call: (918) 652-3922

- 10:30 a.m., Oct. 6th—Okmulgee Public Library Storytime • 9:30 a.m., Oct. 17th—visit by Henryetta Fire Department Fire Safety Clown

Yeager Head Start Center, from Interstate 40 exit at the Weleetka exit and drive south on U.S. Highway 75 for 22 miles to the Yeager sign and drive five miles west on the blacktop road. The center is located on the south side of the road.

For more information, call: (405) 379-6693

- Oct. 5th—Artwork Display at Wal-Mart in Holdenville and The Trophy Shop in Wetumka • 10 a.m., Oct. 7th—Students Participate in Hog Wild Day Parade in Holdenville • 10 a.m., Oct. 25th—Trick or Treating at Holdenville Nursing Homes • 6:30 p.m., Oct. 26th—Halloween Carnival



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November 2000, 16 pages

Third Muscogee Film Festival screens world premiere; showcases local talent

TULSA—The third Muscogee Film Festival, an event of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, is being held Nov. 17 and 18 at the Oklahoma State University-Tulsa Auditorium, 700 N. Greenwood Ave.

The festival showcases films produced by Native Americans as well as films with native themes and actors. This year the festival is featuring the

world premiere of "Your Guardian," starring Actress Irene Bedard in a nontraditional role. The festival is also showcasing local talent. The photography of



Euchee Artist Gregory H. Bigler will be featured on the morning of Nov. 17 during the festival's Native American Visual Arts Education Day for Indian youth. [See Bigler's work on pages eight and nine.]

All proceeds from the festival benefit the Muscogee Nation Communications Department administered Native American Film Scholarship fund—an award to be given to an outstanding

Native American student pursuing a career in the fields of film and video production.

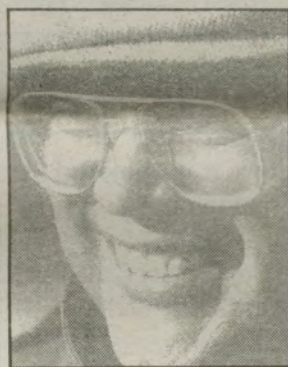
The schedule for the Muscogee Film Festival is:

7 p.m., Fri., Nov. 17

• "On and Off the Rez with Charlie Hill"

This straight ahead, inspiring story about one of America's foremost Native American comedians, Charlie Hill. Hill devel-

oped an early "secret wish" to become a comedian and that wish carried him from an Indian reservation in Wisconsin to the night-clubs in Los Angeles, where he currently works. Hill's honesty is engaging as he shares his struggles to enter the world of stand



Hill

up comedy. Hill's honesty is engaging as he shares his struggles to enter the world of stand

please see **FILM FESTIVAL**..., page 5

One dollar phone service available to low-income Indians

Reprinted from "Indian Country Today"

TULSA—After months of hearing about it, low-income Native Americans in Oklahoma can apply for subsidized telephone service.

The first week the program was in effect, some applicants reported long waits and customer service personnel at Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. who didn't know anything about the program.

Since then, Southwestern Bell has gotten its customer service personnel up to speed and the Enhanced Lifeline Service is officially taking applications for the \$1-a-month telephone service.

The Enhanced Lifeline Program is in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission deployment of the telecommunications effort to provide services to low-income individuals living on tribal lands.

please see **SOUTHWESTERN BELL**..., page 5

Muscogee People Elder continues to advocate for citizens, elders, and veterans

by Gerald Wofford

There's an old saying that goes "You'll rust out before you wear out."

Muscogee (Creek) citizen Jorene Coker is a fine example of that statement. Coker, age 75, was born and raised in Preston and still maintains her home there.

If you've been around tribal veterans or politics, you probably heard of Jorene Coker.

Coker began to see the world at a young age. In 1943, she enlisted into the U.S. Navy during a pivotal year of the second World

War. Stationed in the Pacific, Coker became acquainted with other cultures and societies. When the

war and her tour of duty was over, Coker returned to the U.S. to seek out what every military veteran had been promised by Uncle Sam, a college education

Coker, by the influence of her Navy friends, enrolled at Kent State University in Ohio. She spent a year there and, in her own words—"it was just too cold there in the winter and so I decided to

Citizen produces radio comedy programs being aired nationally

by Gerald Wofford

In September Oneida Comedian Charlie Hill kicked-off "Club Red"—a series of four hour-long radio comedy programs.

The programs—a co-production of the Native Media Resource Center and the Native American Public Telecommunications—deliver a showcase of comedy skits, one-liners, music, and brief interviews with native artists.

"A lot of the program is silly, wacky, buffoonery," said executive producer Peggy Berryhill, "but it is not an Indian 'Hee Haw'—think of it as 'Monty Python' with moccasins."

The frontman for Club Red is Hill, who has developed most of the material. Other players are actress Carla Plante, Cree/Tsimshian and author and musician Bruce King, Oneida. Digital mixing is by: Steve Tokar; Joe Paulino; Neil Harvey; and Berryhill. Cathy Chapman, Apache/Yaqui, is the associate producer for the series.

Berryhill, a tribal citizen originally from Okmulgee, said that the humor is basically pan-Indian, not based or focused on one particular region or tribe. She adds that the program has even received favorable responses from non-Indians as well. "Everyone seems to dig it," she said.

"We have portions of our program like 'Dr. Fido Multiplex' who specializes in the history of white people. He has a book entitled 'White People: Where



"Club Red" players, left to right: Steve Tokar; Charlie Hill; Carla Plante; and Bruce King.

please see **CLUB RED**..., page 5



photo by Gerald Wofford

Jorene Coker is pictured with retired Brigadier General Wilma Vaught, U.S. Air Force

please see **COKER**..., page 15

Letters to the editor

Woman enjoys visit at tribal complex

Editor:

It was a pleasure for me to take my family to the tribal complex last summer and visit the gift shop. All the construction going on just means our Muscogee roots will continue to live on.

The effort to preserve the language is long overdue and is to be commended—keep the dream alive. As my cousin, the late Walter McHenry, said “we don’t want the voice of our people to become silent.”

It would be wonderful if all us “scattered” Muscogee could return to Oklahoma for a language workshop—quick courses—once a year. Thank You.

Kerry Beaver, Kannapolis, N.C.

Man wants information on clan

Editor:

I would like to ask for help in tracing my clan affiliation. My mother’s mother’s mother was Neosho P. Maxy; she was the daughter of Samuel W. Brown, roll number 2958, Euchee, and Neosho Brown of Big Springs Town, Creek.

I believe my great-grandmother Neosho Maxy (Brown) attended the Duck Creek Grounds in the 1950s and early 60s. This very important information died with her about 1971. I will be eternally grateful for any information on my family and clan ties.

You may contact me at: (918) 366-3567; or write,

P.O. Box 10, Leonard OK 74043. *Mvto.*

Bill Breckinridge, Leonard

Citizen pleased with second chief's efforts

Editor:

I was pleased to read in Second Chief A.D. Ellis’ “Second Opinion” that he had visited the Mississippi Band of the Choctaws to examine and explore their diverse and forward looking economic development projects.

We can hope the Chief Ellis is signaling a shift in the focus of our tribal leadership away from “traditional” economic development of the last thirty years—gas, gambling, and cigarettes—and its antiquated “Third World” mentality. Stability and reliability are admirable traits so long as the Nation looks over the horizon and plans for greater prosperity and advancement for its people.

From our heritage, we should learn the lessons of our history. We must adapt, restructure, and exploit existing federal and state policies and programs to propel our Nation into the new millennium. The Muscogee Nation was one of the first and most successful tribal confederations. Even after the arrival of the Europeans, our Nation held a powerful leadership role in North America. Despite the setbacks of removal, internal division during the War Between the States, and the dissolution of tribal government at statehood, the Muscogee Nation survived. The re-emergence of tribal sovereignty now gives us the

chance to thrive as a nation.

To thrive as a Nation we must be creative and reach beyond the basic building blocks of gas, gambling, and cigarettes. Economic prosperity is the key to solidifying our national sovereignty. It is also the key to the advancement of our people. I applaud all those in our leadership who recognize that greater prosperity, greater stability and greater reliability are within our reach if we look beyond “traditional” tribal sources and structures. Many of us, especially those outside of the home counties, are ready to support and assist such initiatives amongst our leaders. *Mvto.*

Greg James, Oklahoma City

Guard member thanks Eufaula community

Editor:

On behalf of the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard, I would like to thank Eufaula Indian Community for the use of its van for our trip to Horseshoe Bend, Ala. and to Okmulgee National Monument for our activities.

Thomas Yahola, Wetumka

October district court filings

Criminal:

CRM 2000-08 Hogan: Tracy aka Tracy Pickett—driving under the influence of intoxicating liquors or drugs

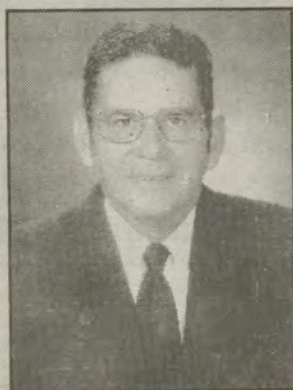
please see **FILINGS...**, page 15

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

I hope that all tribal members have a good supply of wood or propane. Last night I picked some ripe persimmons and split the seeds open. There, as plain as day, appeared the image of a long handled shovel—a sure sign of snow and bad weather.

This winter will be tough time for many tribal members because of the increase in heating costs. Elderly people should be very careful to keep warm. All young people should keep watch on parents and grandparents. They are most valuable source of knowledge and history, not to mention the great gift of love and devotion.



Ellis

On Oct. 13, I attended the Five Civilized Tribes Inter-Tribal Council meeting in Tulsa. At a reception the night before, Mr. Tom Moore was honored as the only living member of the inter-tribal council, which was established in 1950. Mr. Moore, father of Muscogee District Court Judge Pat Moore, still practices law at the age of 89 and goes to work every day.

I attended Eufaula Indian Community's October meeting where the annual election of board members was conducted. They always have a large turnout for their community functions.

On Oct. 15th my wife, Gail, and I attended church at Springfield Methodist Church near Okemah. This

was their fourth Sunday and we really enjoyed the worship service and fellowship throughout the afternoon.

I visited Holdenville Indian Community Center and nutrition program on Oct. 19th; Betty and Penney always serve good food to their people around Holdenville.

While visiting towns within jurisdictional boundaries, I always make a point of dropping in to visit the Nation's child development centers as well. It's great to see all the Muscogee children benefitting from the most modern and well-equipped facilities available.

Upon visiting Sapulpa on Oct. 24th, I found the Sapulpa Indian Community Center full of elders from the Creek and Tulsa districts. They have a luncheon each Tuesday with the women providing food and birthday cakes. As usual, my old friends—Mose Cahwee and Phillip Coon—are always where good food is served. On the way, home I stopped at Sapulpa Indian Health Center and was given a tour by center administrator Judy Aaron. Our clinics are a very vital part of tribal operations.

Don't forget our Veterans program to be held at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11th at our veterans' memorial.

We are still trying to purchase land for an industrial development park. The first prerequisite for successful business is establishing a site for development before pitching industries to move to your area. I remember a movie—“Field of Dreams,” starring Kevin Costner. He built a ball field and they came. We will build an industrial park and I believe they will come. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the Oct. 28 quarterly session.

In Council business:

- failed to approve (18-7-0) National Council Act 00-01, authorizing the management compensation group to initiate a tribal burial program through a group life insurance program (the bill was tabled in the June 24 regular session and a motion for it to remain tabled was made in the Sept. 26 planning session remain tabled);

- approved (14-11-0) NCA 00-136, establishing the special academic/extracurricular program under the human development division and repealing NCA 97-109 and all amendments thereto (the bill was tabled in the Sept. 30 regular session);

- approved (17-6-2) Tribal Resolution 00-42, confirming the nomination of **Marshall Hardin** to serve on the board of commissioners for the Housing Authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma;

Hardin is a tribal citizen residing in **Okmulgee**;

- approved unanimously (25-0-0) TR 00-43, approving the selection of contractors for rehabilitation repair work for the housing authority to execute contracts for such major rehabilitation repair work;

- approved (24-1-0) NCA 00-104; authorizing the attorney general to commission an investigator

for the office of the attorney general;

- approved (23-1-0) NCA 00-127, appropriating funds to support a curator for the Creek Council House Museum as amended;

- approved (24-1-0) NCA 00-158, appropriating funds to Hickory Ground No. 1 Baptist Church to rebuild their church;

- postponed, NCA 00-159, amending the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority contracts and/or agreements with contractors for home repairs;

- approved (23-2-0) NCA 00-163, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a lease agreement by and between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Pitney Bowes Credit Corporation for a mail meter machine;

- postponed NCA 00-164, appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Headstart Building and to construct a new Headstart center at the same location in Sapulpa;

- approved (21-4-0) NCA 00-165, approving a special appropriation for the completion of the documentary film "Alcatraz Is Not an Island;"

- approved (24-1-0) amending NCA 00-166, appropriating tribal funds for repair, improvements, and equipment for Thewarle Baptist Church;

- approved (22-0-0) NCA 00-167, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into

an agreement with C & I Construction for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Muscogee Bingo Hall;

- approved (22-0-0) NCA 00-168, authorizing the gaming operations authority board to enter into an agreement with Wilbanks & Associates, Inc., for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tulsa Bingo hall;

- approved (20-0-1) NCA 00-172, authorizing the resident services program of the Housing Authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma to expend a 1999 U.S. Housing and Urban Development resident opportunities and self sufficiency program grant in the amount of \$250,000 and a \$100,000 partner grant;

- approved (21-0-0) NCA 00-175, authorizing a special appropriation for three Haskell Indian Nations University students to attend the National Congress of American Indians Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota on November 11 through 17, 2000;

- approved (18-3-0) NCA 00-176, authorizing execution of an agreement, parts 1 and 2, by the principal chief, between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and SGS, L.L.C; and

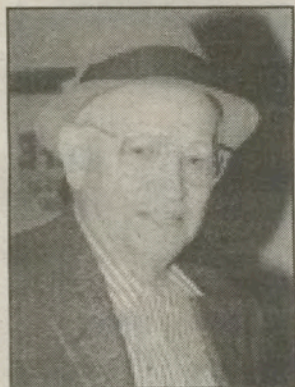
- approved (21-0-0) NCA 00-177, authorizing the expenditure of the service award for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headstart program.

Editor's note: These are the unofficial results of the Oct. 28 quarterly session of the Muscogee National Council. They will not be official until approved by the Council.

Maskoke man honored as last living charter member of inter-tribal council

TULSA—Thomas E. Moore was honored at the October quarterly meeting of the Five Civilized Tribes Inter-Tribal Council with the distinction of being the only living charter member.

He was appointed to the inter-tribal council by Principal Chief Roley Canard and served from its inception—in 1949—until 1958. He was secretary/treasurer in 1952, 1953, and 1954.



Moore

Moore was active in tribal affairs, having served on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council during the terms of principal chiefs: Canard; John F. Davis; Roley Buck; and Dode McIntosh. He traveled to the nation's capitol to conference with the Muscogee Nation's Washington, D.C. attorney, Paul

Niebell on numerous occasions.

He was born Oct. 1, 1911 to William Napoleon Moore on his father's allotment three miles south of Morris. During the forced removal of confederated Maskokulke from the southeast his paternal grandfather, John Randolph Moore, came to Indian Territory as a teenager along with his grandmother, Martha

Phillips. Moore belongs to Cussetah Tribal Town and the Bear Clan.

Moore began his education in the Morris Public School System in 1917 and graduated from the eighth grade in Morris in 1925. That fall he enrolled at Chilocco Indian School and graduated in 1929. He then attended Bacone College, receiving an associate's degree. Upon graduation he was offered a scholarship to William Jewell College, located in Liberty, Mo., where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1933.

He was employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as an agricultural extension service specialist for Okmulgee and Okfuskee counties. In 1938, he was transferred to the Wewoka office as an appraiser.

He continued to work for the BIA until joining the Army during World War II. Moore was serving in the Pacific Arena when the Japanese surrendered. He was discharged on May 6, 1946 with the rank of technical sergeant.

He graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in August 1948. He passed the Oklahoma Bar exam in September 1948 and opened his law office in the McCullough Building in Okmulgee. He has continued to office in the same building to the present date—a period of 52 years.

The 89-year-old currently resides in Okmulgee and is in his law office on a daily basis.



Thomas Moore is pictured with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver at the inter-tribal council.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Food distribution site dates rescheduled

OKMULGEE—Some Muscogee Nation Food Distribution site dates have been rescheduled.

New and emergency applicants may receive food from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Okmulgee warehouse located at 1010 E. Eufaula.

Recipients that missed distribution at their regularly scheduled site may retrieve food at the Okmulgee warehouse; this arrangement requires that appointments be made by calling (918) 756-3467; or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 400.

The Okmulgee warehouse will be closed on the following dates: Nov. 20; 23; 24; and 30.

Distribution dates have been rescheduled for:

- Checotah Community Center, 830 N. Broadway—distribution will be from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 17 and 29; and
- Okmulgee warehouse, 1010 E. Eufaula—distribution will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 27.

Vision program to begin accepting applications

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Tribal Vision Program will begin accepting applications for vision care on Nov. 15.

Funding will be expended based on the following priorities:

- enrolled original allottees;
- children 18 years of age and younger;
- Muscogee tribal citizens ages 50 and over; and
- Muscogee tribal citizens from the ages of 19 to 50.

Applicants must live within the State of Oklahoma and attach the following documents to the completed application:

- tribal citizenship card;
- Social Security card; and
- health insurance card.

Each individual is eligible to receive up to \$150 for total vision care which includes the examination, lenses, and frames. Contact lenses are only allowable if required medically. Eligible applicants must use optometrists that have been contracted with the Muscogee Nation Division of Health Administration. Tribal citizens are eligible to receive assistance every two years. Assistance will be given based on the availability of funds.

For more information or to request an application, call (918) 758-2710. Applications will be sent by mail.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE—Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Muskogee, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

Energy assistance may not be applied for at these regularly scheduled site visits.

The sites are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.—applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 15 and Dec. 6;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave.—application will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Nov. 16 and Dec. 7.
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland—applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 16 and Dec. 7;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar—applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m.,

Tribal citizen fights tobacco abuse

Nurse wants to return tobacco to its rightful place

by Gerald Wofford

OKMULGEE—Registered Nurse Cynthia Coachman is taking tobacco abuse to task. Coachman, a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee Health Center employee, is preparing to educate fellow tribal citizens and other American Indians about the abuse of tobacco.

The use of tobacco is important in the traditional life-style of many American Indian tribes. From private home medicinal use to ceremonial activities, tobacco is revered in many cultures. It is the abuse of tobacco that has Coachman worried.

"There is such a big difference between the to-

bacco use of our ancestors, as compared to the usage of today. Today, cigarettes are processed and packaged with such chemicals as formaldehyde and other toxins. It is clearly seen why tobacco, in the way that it is packaged today, is dangerous to your health."

Another of Coachman's concerns is the use of advertisements to influence tobacco use.

"It is all made to look so glamorous, similar to the promotion of alcohol; smoking is thought to be so cool, especially to our

youth, when it can be very unhealthy."

Coachman is so concerned about tobacco abuse

please see **TOBACCO**...page 15

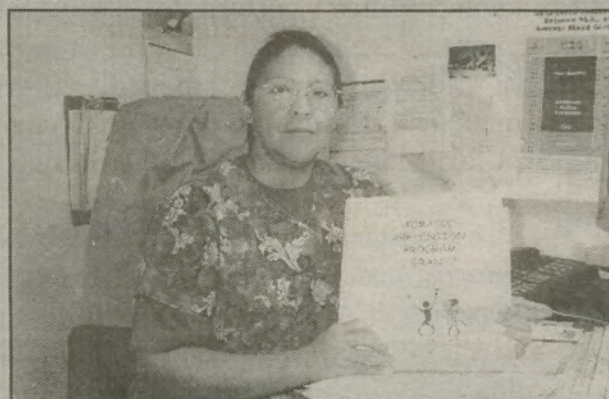


photo by Gerald Wofford

Coachman with the CDC grant application.

Nov. 21 and Dec. 5; and

- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia—applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Dec. 5.

Energy assistance programs to take applications

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is preparing to begin its tribal energy assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs in December/January.

Past participants will be notified of the appointment schedule by mail. All appointments will be scheduled at the tribal complex in Okmulgee.

Social services will begin taking walk-in appointments starting Jan. 8.

The following information is required to complete the application process:

- Certificate Degree of Indian Blood card (CDIB) or tribal citizenship card;
- Social Security;
- income verification for each household member; and
- a heating bill in the applicant or spouse's name.

Additional information will be required for students 18 years or older and individuals caring for minor children other than their own.

For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 279.

Gaming association announces contest

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—The National Indian Gaming Association is holding a national photography contest entitled "Saluting Our Future Stars."

The photographs submitted should "celebrate the leaders of tomorrow—those who show promise of leadership and responsibility."

All photos should be submitted by Dec. 1. Details on the National Photo contest are available on our web site www.indiangaming.org.

Mail photographs to the NIGA at: 224 2nd St. S.E.,

Washington DC. 20003.

For more information contact Dianne Wyss at (202) 546-7711 or dwyss@indiangaming.org.

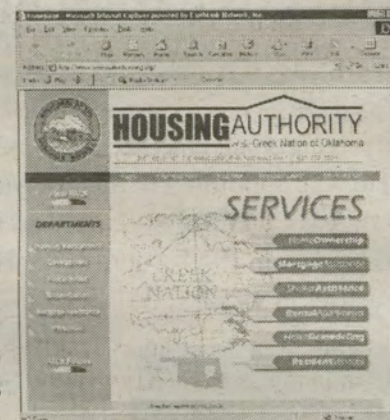
Awards for the contest are: grand prize, \$1,500; second prize, \$1,000; third prize, \$500; and fourth prize will receive \$250.

Housing authority web site offers information

OKMULGEE—The Creek Nation Housing Authority has developed a web site that offers information on various housing authority and tribal programs.

The programs include: home ownership; mortgage assistance; shelter assistance; rental apartments; home remodeling; and resident services.

See the web site at www.creeknationhousing.org or for more information on these programs, contact the Creek Nation Housing Authority at (918) 756-8504 or 1 (800) 259-5050.



Report shows birthrates continue to drop

WASHINGTON—The birth rate for teenagers declined three percent, between 1998 and 1999, to reach a rate of 49.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19—the lowest rate in the 60 years data on teen births have been recorded, according to a new report from Center for Disease Control's National Center for Health Statistics.

The preliminary report also found a drop in the number of births to unmarried teens, record high levels of women receiving early prenatal care, a rise in the cesarean delivery rate, and no improvement in

please see **NOTICES**..., page 15

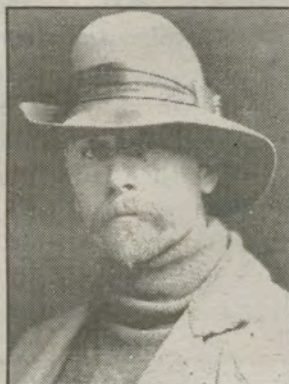
Film Festival

continued from page 1

up comedy. *Running time—56 min.*

• “Coming to Light—Edward S. Curtis and the North American Indians”

Edward S. Curtis (1868-1952) was a pioneer photographer who set out at the turn of the century to document traditional Indian life before it “disappeared.” He rose from obscurity to become the most famous photographer of his time, created an enormous body of work—10,000 recordings, 40,000 photographs, and a full length ethnographic motion picture—but died poor and forgotten. His work was rediscovered in the 1970s and is now synonymous with photography of Indians. *Running time—85 min.*



Curtis

Matinee

1 p.m., Sat., Nov. 18

• “Eufaula/Okmulgee Pow-wow”

In keeping with the festival’s objective of promoting local native filmmakers, Muscogee (Creek) Director Vernon Courtwright of Onapa presents his production of these yearly events. *Running time—10 min.*

• “Jerome Tiger: The Man and His Legacy”

Produced locally by Chief Productions, this documentary explores the life and legacy of an extraordinary Muscogee-Seminole artist whose unique style thrust him to the forefront of the art world.



Tiger

Tiger’s works, which explore the main themes of the stomp dance and the game of stickball, as well as his realistic portrayal of family life and the Trail of Tears, are featured. *Running time—28 min.*

• “En Pointe: The Lives and Legacies of Ballet’s Native Americans”

This documentary, produced by Oklahoma City Artist Shawnee Britton, spotlights the unique lives of American Indian ballerinas: Maria Tallchief; Rosella Hightower; Marjorie Tallchief; Yvonne Chouteau; and Moscelyn Larkin. Larkin, of Tulsa, will give an introduction to this documentary. *Running time—58 min.*

Reception

6 p.m., Sat., Nov. 18

A reception in honor of all tribal veterans will be held as a prelude to the screening of “The Last Comanche Codetalker Recollections of Charles Chibitty.”

Evening session

7 p.m., Sat., Nov. 18

• “The Last Comanche Codetalker Recollections of Charles Chibitty”

The screening of this film about Comanche codetalkers marks its first festival showing. The documentary contains unpublished photographs of Comanche Codetalkers. Director Dwayne Noble of Mannford and last living Comanche Codetalker Charles Chibitty of Tulsa will give an introduction to the documentary. *Running time—43 min.*

• “Your Guardian”

Popular native actress Irene Bedard stars in this movie about a young costume designer who leaves her job at a Reno drag show in search of the truth about the disappearance of her mother. Her journey takes her to Prince-by-the-Sea, a small coastal town that is home to a host of lovable, endearing, and quirky characters. This film allows Bedard’s talents to shine in a “nontraditional” role. *Running time—85 min.*

Admission is \$5 for each evening session and \$3 for the matinee session. For more information, contact Festival Coordinator Gerald Wofford at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 220; or e-mail comm1@ocevnet.org.

Club Red

continued from page 1

Did They go?” We even interview him at an excavation site.”

There are other characters such as “Groping Bear”—a purported medicine man who plugs his “Groping Bear Medicine Products,” and the “Flat-Earth Rangers,” whose purpose is to keep the Europeans out of the western continent. “You’ve heard of the lost Roanoke Colony,” Berryhill said, “well it was the Flat Earth Rangers

who convinced them to leave. We even poke fun at Indian Awards shows, with actress Tantoo Cardinal winning almost every award—since she seems to be nominated a lot at every Indian award program. We even give away the ‘Tantoo Cardinal Award’ in our spoof.” Berryhill, and her talented cast make their show a humorous one, but not to intentionally hurt anyone. “We let Tantoo hear the spoof and she laughed too,” Berryhill adds.

Berryhill is no stranger to the airwaves; she is an industry veteran with 27 years of experience in radio broadcasting. She was also the producer for the Smithsonian Institution’s historic production of “Spirits of the Present: The Voices of Native America” in 1991. The series aired on National Public Radio stations across the country to commemorate 500 years of American Indian lives since the arrival of Christopher Columbus.

Berryhill belongs to the Bird Clan and is the daughter of the late James and Martha Perryman Berryhill. She resides in Bodega Bay, Calif.

“Club Red” has received local air play on The Muscogee Nation Radio Program, KOKL-AM 1240 (Okmulgee) and National Public Radio Station KOSU-FM 91.7 (Stillwater).

If you’d like to hear the series, contact your local NPR station.

SW Bell

continued from page 1

The program was originally announced in June, but what areas qualify as Indian lands’ were questioned by Southwestern Bell, which still has the matter under appeal with the FCC, all of which delayed the application process.

Jeff Kaufmann, a spokesman for Southwestern Bell, said the reason for the delay was that SWB wanted to make sure all who qualified for the subsidized service could be served. The company didn’t want to see individuals who qualified left out because of questions about where they reside.

“I think it is also because of the way the FCC order defines land,” Kaufmann said. “We just simply wanted a definition of what the lands are...we wanted to make sure we were doing what they intended for us to do.”

As it stands, Kaufmann said almost all of Oklahoma, except for the panhandle region, is considered tribal or former tribal land and therefore meets

part of the eligibility criteria. The FCC order specifies Indian land or former reservations, which caused some confusion not only for the telephone company but also for tribes in the area.

The Enhanced Lifeline Program provides low-income individuals with local phone service for as little as \$1 per month. Kaufmann stressed that people need to remember that it is basic local service, not long distance. In areas where no telephone service has been installed, the program subsidizes the cost of installing telephone service. Funding for both programs comes from the Universal Service Fund for which customers are billed each month.

Other eligibility factors are fairly simple. To qualify for the subsidized service, individuals must participate in at least one of 10 programs for low-income individuals. Kaufmann stressed that non-Indians can also apply if they meet the criteria.

Participation is required in one of the following programs: food stamps; medical assistance (Medicaid); Supplemental Security Income; Aid for Families with Dependent Children; vocational rehabilitation (including hearing impaired); Oklahoma sales tax relief; Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance program; tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Head Start (income qualified customers only); or the National School Lunch Program (free lunch program only).

Kaufmann said after he received reports that potential Lifeline applicants were having trouble accessing information and customer service, he dialed the number for the program on four different occasions and had no trouble getting through. He said Southwestern Bell customer service representatives have had a high volume of calls for those wanting to apply for the \$1 a month service and urged those who previously had trouble contacting the right department to call back.

The Enhanced Lifeline program is a nationwide program. Those who believe they may qualify for the program should

contact their local telephone companies for more information or to apply.

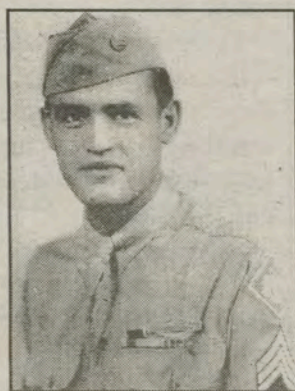
Since Oklahoma was once considered “Indian Territory,” most of the state falls under the land requirement. In other parts of the country applicants not living on current reservations may have to ascertain the status of the land they are living.

Many tribes in the Oklahoma area contacted said they didn’t have enough information on the program yet. Kaufmann said he expects SWB to start getting information out to tribal governments in the near future.

Oklahomans and residents of other states in Southwestern Bell’s service area who are interested in applying for the Enhanced Lifeline Program can call 1-800-464-7928. In other areas around the country, applicants can contact their state communications commission or the FCC, in addition to their local telephone companies, for more information.

Maskoke man unit's last surviving codetalker

Houston "Waddie" Palmer was born on Jan. 7, 1922 near Holdenville to Rev. Billy and Bessie McCosser Palmer. He began his military service by enlisting in the Oklahoma National Guard while attending Chilocco Indian School at the age of 17. Later, the National Guard was mobilized into a regular army. Houston served in the 45th Infantry Division, Company "C," 180th Infantry as a platoon sergeant.



Palmer

His date of enlistment was Sept. 9, 1940 and he began active service on Sept. 16, 1940. Houston served under General George

S. Patton as a rifleman on front line duty; he had 60 Indian men from Chilocco in his company. He had six different platoon squads. Houston and his comrades began their tour of duty with a North African Campaign, Anzio Beach Head, Sicily and Italy. Lt. Ernest Childers was in the same company. Houston said he and his company knocked out fox holes with Childers; they fought with bayonets, rocks, and sticks to stay alive, Helen Chupco, his sister, said. There were Muscogee (Creek) code talkers in his company; all of them were killed in action. Houston is the only survivor.

After being wounded three times and before the invasion of France, Houston was sent home. He was honorably discharged in 1947. He was awarded the: Silver Star; Bronze Star; Purple Heart; American Defense Ribbon; and Good Conduct Medal.

He currently resides in a Muskogee nursing home.

Newspaper accepting profiles on enrolled Muscogee tribal veterans

OKMULGEE—Enrolled Muscogee tribal veterans or family members may submit profiles regarding tribal veterans' military service for publication in *The Muscogee Nation News*.

The veteran for which the profile is being submitted may be living or deceased.

It is requested that the profile include:

- the veteran's full name;
- veterans' roll numbers, (if the roll number is not known, include the date of birth or Social Security number in order to verify tribal citizenship);
- branch of military and unit; and
- war era.

Profiles may be sent to: *The Muscogee Nation News*, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447; or e-mail, comm2@ocevnet.org.

After surviving active combat, man is ironically killed during reconnaissance patrol

reprinted from "The [Chilocco] Indian School Journal"

Master Sgt. Roy Waldon Jr., a graduate of Chilocco in 1949, was killed on the military reservation in South Fort Hood, Texas on the night of Feb. 24, 1965. He was on a night reconnaissance patrol when his jeep turned over, killing him and seriously injuring two others.

Funeral services were held for him on March 1 in the Luginbuel Chapel in Vinita. All the bearers were members of American Legion Post 40. Survivors are: his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Waldon Sr. of Disney; three brothers—who also graduated at Chilocco—Pfc. Eugene Waldon, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Fort Bragg, N. C., Seaman Theodore Waldon, San Francisco Naval Base, San Francisco; Calif., Don Waldon, Lawrence, Kan.; and one brother and three sisters of the home.

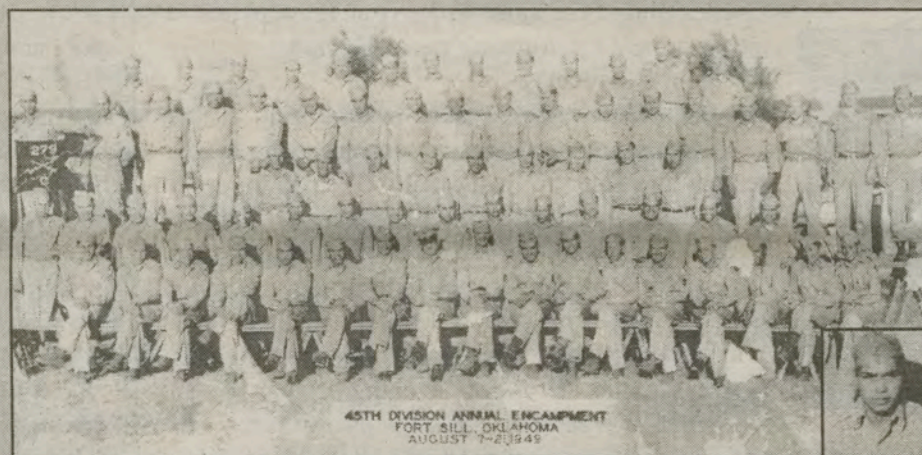
Sgt. Waldon served two periods in the Korean War, both with "C" Company,

279th Infantry, 45th Division. He returned to the U.S. in July 1952 and reenlisted in the same year. He took paratroopers training and was reassigned to the same company in which he had originally served.

While serving in the armed forces, he was awarded: the Bronze Star for Valor; the Purple Heart; the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Ribbon; the United Nations Ribbon; three Korean Campaign Battle Stars Combat Infantry Badge; and the Paratroopers' Jump Award.

Roy was born in Oklahoma City on Nov. 27, 1928. He completed grammar school at Euchee Mission School in Sapulpa and came to Chilocco as a freshman, graduating with the class of 1949. While at Chilocco, Roy took painting as his vocation. His honors included: president of the Painters Club; president of the Letterman's Club;

Honor Society; and band orchestra, four years. Braggs, N. C., Seaman Theodore Waldon, San Francisco Naval Base, San Francisco; Calif.,



Waldon is pictured in the first row, fifth from the left. His brother, Theodore, "Ted," is the first person in the last row. Tribal citizen Jacob Harjo, is also pictured in the last row, sixth from the left.

Veteran groomed for service at Missouri Military Academy; sees action in the South Pacific

reprinted from "The Indian Journal"

Full-blood Creek Yahola Tiger, a Native American from the Vivian community, saw three and one half years of combat in the South Pacific during World War II.

B o r n
Feb. 2, 1922, Tiger was 19 years old when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 1941. On Christmas Day that same year



Yahola

he decided to quit school, knowing he would surely be drafted.

School for Tiger was Missouri Military Academy, established in 1889 in Mexico, Mo. He possessed athletic ability and excelled in sports, especially boxing and fencing.

A cadet sergeant in Company "C", Tiger attended the academy from 1936-1941, quitting before he graduated. Although he enjoyed the school and the training, according to Tiger's wife, Harriette, he did not finish his R.O.T.C. training at MMA. With no commission, Tiger served his time as an enlisted man.

The Tigers were married on Jan. 7, 1942, but Uncle Sam was knocking at Yahola's heart's door. In June 1942, rather than be drafted, he joined the

Army, took artillery training at Fort Sill, and was sent to California and Washington as a costal artillery gunner.

"Soldiers like Yahola were always on constant alert, watching the coastline for enemy ships, submarines, and aircraft," Harriette, a lifelong Eufaula resident, said. She travelled to California twice while he was stationed there.

An old photograph, framed and occupying a dignified spot on her hallway wall, shows Tiger with his World War II unit, Battery "D," 55th Anti-Aircraft Training Battalion, Camp Calan, Calif. July 25, 1942.

Eventually, he was shipped to the South Pacific and saw combat in the Philippines and New Guinea. He saw combat action in the southwest Pacific area on various islands prior to combat

in the Philippines.

The Japanese took over the Philippines and General Douglas McArthur's forces took the islands back, one by one, the hard way. Being an artillery unit, Yahola was in the thick of the battle, protecting hard fought pieces of real estate against enemy aircraft, submarines, and ships.

Yahola died in 1987 at the age of 65, from an apparent heart attack.

The Tigers had seven girls and five boys. They have grandchildren and great-grandchildren "too numerous to count," said Harriette.

The walls and a dresser in her living room are covered with framed photos of her family and one in particular stands out—a proud soldier in an Army uniform.

Council Oak Tree Ceremony



Council Oak Tree Ceremony

Right: Kenneth Childers; Tim Thompson, keynote speaker and Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard member; R. Perry Beaver, principal chief; Eunice Hill, program presenter and Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground Speaker; Tom Tiger; and Earl King, Tulsa District Representative to the National Council

Middle left: Tom Tiger delivers the invocation—Carol Morris, Tulsa Creek Indian Community chair, Hill, and Childers are pictured right.

Middle right: Ceremonial ground leaders—Jimmy Wildcat, Polecat second speaker; James Brown, Polecat chief; Delbert Dunn Jr., Polecat second chief; Barney Harjochee, Okfuskee mekko; and George Thompson, Ocevpofo mekko. Kelly Bell, Fishpond mekko, is pictured in the foreground.

Bottom center: Childers, a descendant of the first Maskokean peoples to settle in what would become Tulsa—the Locapokv—and King tend to the symbolically lit fire.



photos by Gerald Wofford

Saturday
October Twenty-first
Two Thousand

photography by G



Gregory H. Bigler

Through his photography, Gregory H. Bigler captures church gatherings, ceremonial ground activities, and social events of Euchee people.

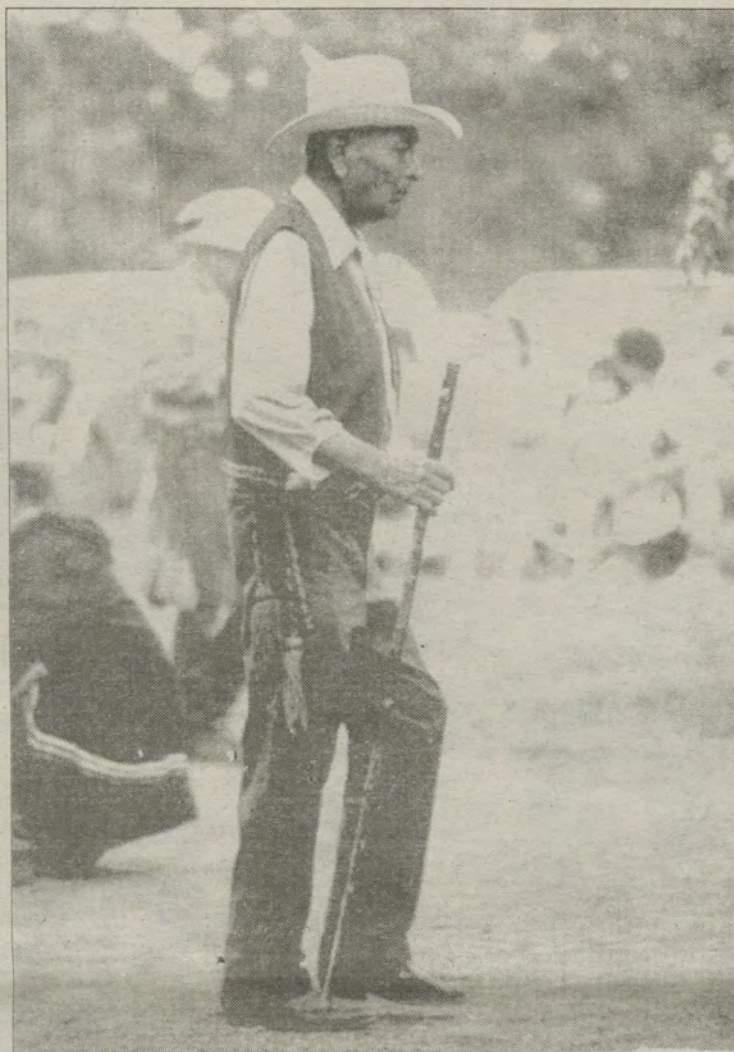
"Despite all that we have experienced, Indians manage to retain a distinct culture separate from white society, even when we participate in 'mainstream' activities. Modern tribal people and their affairs contain a beauty and depth that does not need to be romanticized. Hopefully, I can record and explain to others through my photography what I see and feel as a member of this modern Indian community."

Among awards he has received for his photography include Lawrence Indian Art Show and Santa Fe Indian Market. Gilcrease Museum also holds his work in its permanent collection.

He co-ordinates a Euchee language class in Sapulpa and is the chair of the Oklahoma Native Language Association. He belongs to Polecat Ceremonial Ground.

Bigler holds an LL.M from Wisconsin Law School. He is currently with Rice & Bigler.

He, his wife Dawn, and their two children reside in Sapulpa.



"Stickman"



"Granny Cleaning Onions," 1994



"Uncle Jimi," 1998

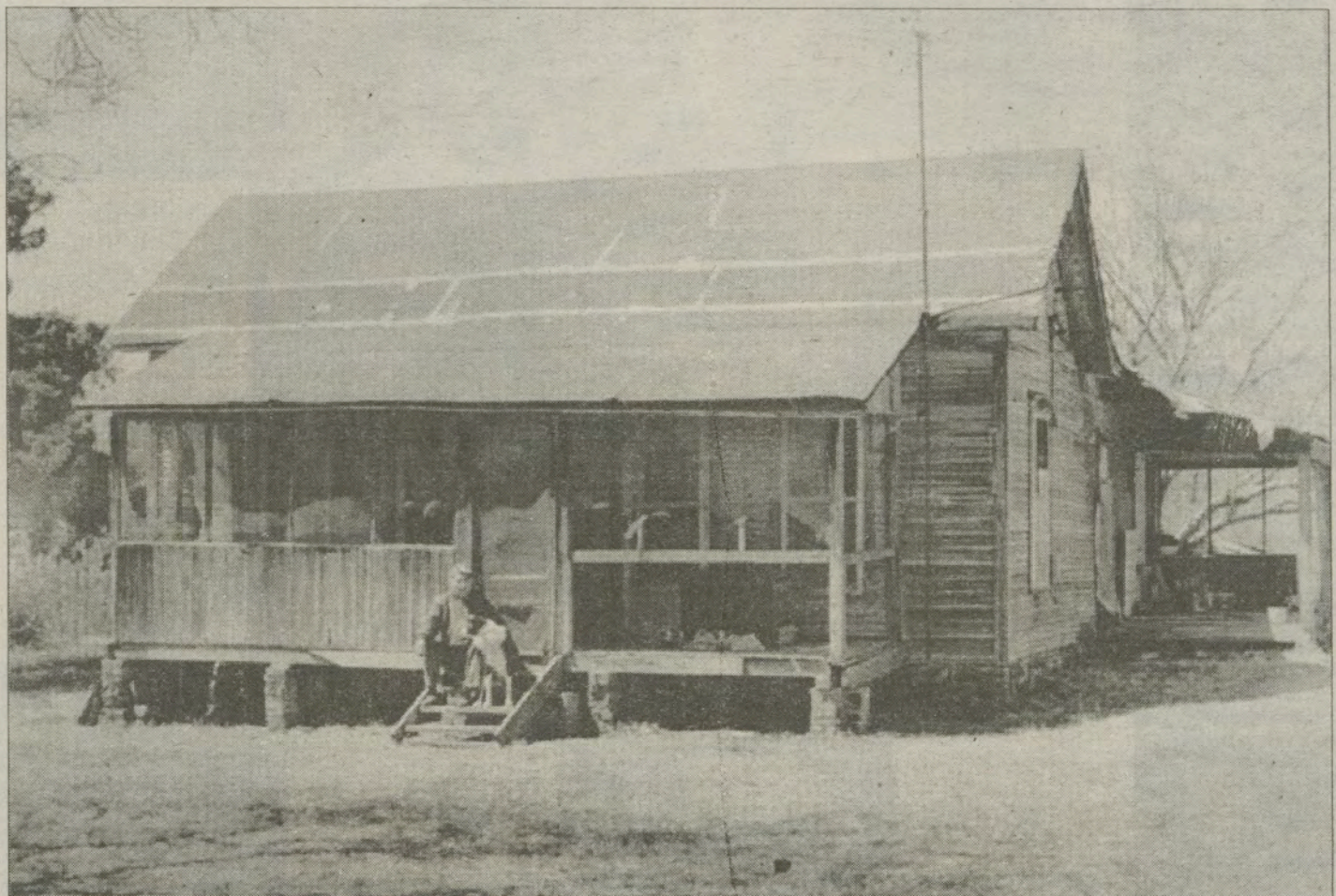


"Sis," 1994

Gregory H. Bigler



"Granny Lou & Maggie," 1995



"Mack & Pepper," 1997

Euchee Indian Mission School Reunion



Euchee Indian Mission School Reunion

Above: George Almerigi (1941-42) of Okmulgee and Charles Johnson, (1944-45) of Wewoka

Right: Former teacher Alene Sessions, who taught at the school from 1938 to 1943, of Tulsa is pictured with former students that she taught during 1939 and 1940—Gene Waldon of Garland, Texas and Rex Watson of Dewar.

Second row left: James "Bummie" Willie (1926-36) of Arkansas City, Kan. and Ed Moore (1928-33) of Muskogee

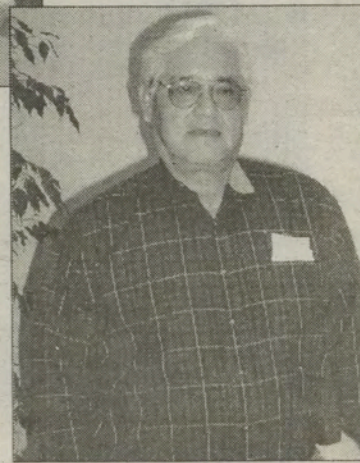
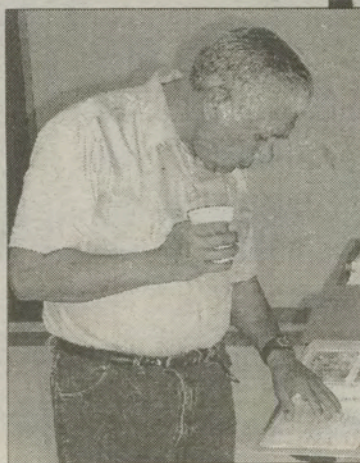
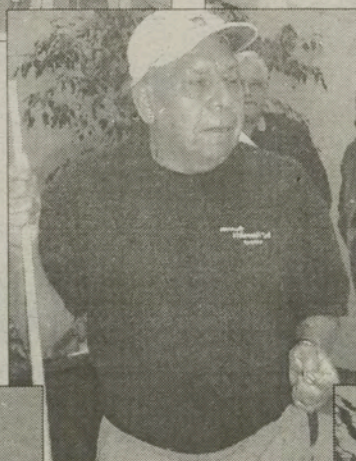
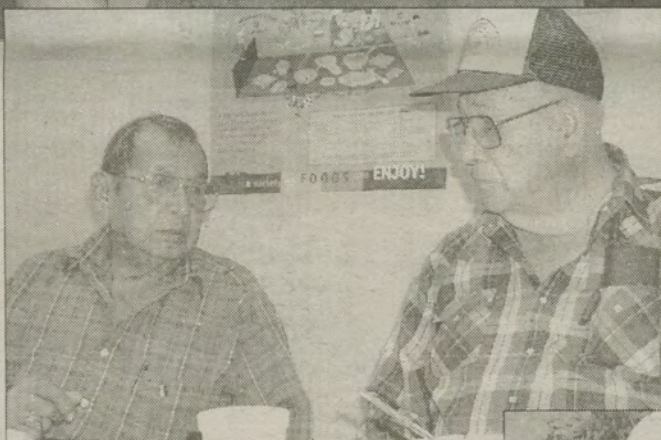
Second row right: Johnny Freeman (1943-47) of Tulsa and Jerry Haney (1942-47) of Shawnee

Middle: Reunion coordinator Gene Leitka (1941-47) of Albuquerque, N.M.

Bottom left: March Wind (1946-47) of Okemah

Bottom right: Mickey Freeman (1943-47) of Oklahoma City

photos by
Stephanie Barnett



Head Start Awareness Month

Head Start
Awareness
Month

Above: Okmulgee Head Start students Jasmine Buckley and Rekesha Lewis pose with Henryetta Fire Department's "Hot Shot the Clown"

Top right: Hot Shot educates Okmulgee Head Start students on fire safety.

Second row left: "Sparky the Fire Dog" is approached by a throng of Okmulgee Head Start youth.

Second row right: Checotah Head Start youth prepare to begin their parade route

Third row center: Checotah Head Start students parade through downtown Checotah.

Bottom row left: Wilson Head Start students, pictured, left to right—front row: Sharise Demmitt; Morgan Pearson; Jessica Fairres; Hailey Waquie; Joshua Langley; and Kelsey Sisson; back row—Mayson Polston; Devon Blood; Alice Summers; Keana Jackson; Wade Minyard; Kaitlyn Drinnon; Taylor Jacobs; and Cole Thompson.

Bottom row right: Sapulpa Head Start student Payton Bruner, right, assists Teacher Madia Simms during storytime.

photos by
Gerald Wofford
&
Denise Jacobs



Education

Girl helps lead team to third place finish

ROCKFORD, ILL.—Muscogee citizen Gloria Jobe helped lead the "Oklahoma Thrillers" to a third place finish in the National 14U American Fastpitch Association Tournament.

The "A" division tournament was held Aug. 1 through 6 and hosted 63 teams from the U.S. and one team from Canada. Jobe, 14, is a pitcher for the Edmond team.

She appeared in five games, pitched 25 innings and gave up one earned run for a 0.28 earned run average. She pitched one no-hitter, one shutout, and earned an individual award ribbon as a "most valuable opponent" in her final game. The team received third place bronze medals and final four T-shirts, signifying the team's status as one of the final four teams left in the tournament. The Thrillers ended their summers season with an overall 76-23-2 record, along with a third place finish in the nation.

Jobe is a freshman and the varsity pitcher for the Perkins-Tryon High School Softball Team. She has been pitching since the age of nine and has played competitive softball for four years.

In addition to her accomplishments on the field, she also excels in the classroom and community. She was one of six valedictorians of her eighth grade class and was inducted as a member of the Oklahoma Junior Honor Society. Jobe is a three-year member of the P-T band, earning first chair as a trombone player, member of the "Midnight Regiment" marching band and is a charter member of Girl Scout Troop 99. She is an active participant of the River's Edge Youth Group and River of Life Pentecostal Church of God.

She is the daughter of Diane and Noble Jobe of Perkins and the granddaughter of David Lewis of Henryetta.

Tribal citizen graduates from Carson City

CARSON CITY, Nev.—Tribal citizen Sarv Long graduated from Carson City High School.

She is currently attending a community college in the city.

Long is the daughter of Steven Long and Sue Studervant of Carson City.

She belongs to the Wotko Clan.

Long is the granddaughter of Rev. Harry and Mulsey Long of Muskogee.



Jobe



S. Long

Citizen named Bacone leadership scholar

MUSKOGEE—Bacone College has announced Checotah tribal citizen Sarah E. Pemberton as the Bacone College Indian Leadership Scholar for the 2000 to 2001 school year.

The scholarship, awarded annually, was given to Pemberton after deliberation by a selection board, headed by Dean of Admissions Karin L. Workentin.

To be eligible, a student must meet certain eligibility requirements, including minimum grade point average and ACT scores.

The 18 year old Pemberton had to submit her high school transcript along with a written essay. In her essay, she focused on her continual high school student senate leadership and various community service functions, such as coordinating blood drives, involvement with youth sports and her Key Club membership volunteer activities.

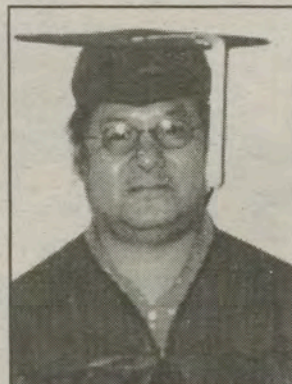
Arizona man receives bachelor's degree

PHOENIX—Taylor Long received a bachelor's degree in social science at Arizona State University West.

He is the son of Rev. Harry and Mulsey Long of Muskogee.

Long is the grandson of the late Miller and Nancy Lowe Tarpalechee and Thomas and Martha Berryhill Long.

He belongs to the Beaver Clan Kassetv Tribal Town.



T. Long

American Indian Ambassadors sought

BERNALILLO, NM—Recruitment is underway for the 2001 class of the American Indian Ambassadors Program, sponsored by Americans for Indian Opportunity.

The intent of the program is to nurture a new generation of Native American leaders. The program administrators are conducting an extensive national campaign to enlist America's "brightest and most promising" emerging Indian and Alaska Native leaders be-

tween the ages of 25 and 36. A group of 16 individuals will be chosen to participate.

"The ambassadors program is the only leadership development initiative in the United States that allows Native Americans to define for ourselves within the context of our own cultures, what kind of leaders we need to ensure the future of tribal America," said LaDonna Harris, president and founder of Americans for Indian Opportunity and key designer of the ambassadors program.

A group of advisors and the AIO Board of Directors established the ambassadors program to rekindle dormant vision, refresh current leadership, and empower emerging leaders to create avenues for Native Americans to express their cultural values in all arenas of contemporary life.

The ambassadors program provides a creative combination of mentorship, personal inquiry into one's own "medicine" or power, dialogue with leading national decision-makers, community involvement, and communication skills training. An extensive look at tribal values and identity rounds out the curriculum. While participating in the program, the ambassadors remain in their communities and come together in appropriate locations, in and outside the United States, for several group meetings.

When chosen, the 2001 class will, like the preceding six classes, represent both urban and reservation-based cross section of the Native American population, diverse by gender, region, tribe, and educational experience. An array of professions will also be represented in each class, including: law enforcement; health; public administration; the arts; business; telecommunications; cultural resources; education; and tribal governance.

To be considered for the competitive program, candidates must submit an official application and two nominations by Dec. 15.

For more information, write: Americans for Indian Opportunity, 681 Juniper Hill Road, Bernalillo, N.M. 87004; call, (505) 867-0278; or visit its website: www.aio.org.

Careers

Citizen hired as Bacone museum director

MUSKOGEE—Bacone college has hired Muscogee citizen John Timothy II as the new museum coordinator for the Ataloa Lodge Museum located on the campus of Bacone College.

Timothy comes to Bacone after working six years as the cultural resources officer for the Five Civilized Tribes Museum.

Timothy is lifelong resident of Muskogee. He "expresses a lot of excitement" and brings respect for art, culture and native history to the position.

"I feel that Muskogee is the unofficial Indian capital of the world and it's only fitting that such a great museum be open at all times," Timothy said. "It is seriously under-used, because I know of many people who would look for it, but it was never open."

Some of Timothy's experiences include being one of only 15 chosen nationwide to attend the American Indian Leadership conference in Washington, D.C. and again in New York City.

The museum houses more than 20,000 artifacts and Native American art.

Aside from the educational benefits to the gen-

eral student body of Bacone, he sees the museum becoming a major tourist attraction on the state level, benefiting not only the school, but the community as well. He plans on using the experience and expertise that he developed at the five tribes museum to make the Ataloa Lodge one of the prime focal points for American Indian art collectors in eastern Oklahoma.

"I will try to get support from tribal members to help make it the voice of the tribes—a place where elders can share knowledge and the youth can learn from the elders," Timothy said.

Yuchi artist receives juror's choice award

OKLAHOMA CITY—Yuchi artist Mark Maxey received one of four juror's choice awards in the Outart Juried Art Show for his digital media piece, "Purple Iris Dreams."

Two of Maxey's other entries were selected for the show.

The show was juried by three international art jurors. They selected 22 pieces of art from 12 artists; 17 artists had submitted 57 pieces of art.

To see Maxey's work, see the website: www.tsoyaha.com.

Births and birthdays

Arrivals

Brock Hicks

OKMULGEE—Brock Hicks was born on July 7 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Jeremiah Hicks and Carrie Jacobs.

He weighed 8 pounds and 13 ounces, and was 20 and one half inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Patsy Jacobs of Henryetta and Frank Jacobs of Tulsa.

His paternal grandparents are Jim and Jean Hicks of Henryetta.

His maternal great-grandparents are: Joe Rameriz of Florence, Ariz.; the late Pauline Crawford, Sells, Ariz.; Betty Jacobs of Tulsa; and the late Sam Jacobs, Henryetta.

His paternal great-grandparents are: Houston and Eliza Hicks of Henryetta; Sissy Lewis of Hanna and the late Jonus Artussee, Okmulgee.

Brock has one brother, Bradley, and one sister, Alisha.



Hicks

Espoke Long

OKLAHOMA CITY—Espoke Lee Long was born Sept. 16 to Bobbie Long and Wayne Walston of Oklahoma City.

He weighed 8 pounds. Long belongs to the Fuswv Clan and belongs to Nuyaka Tribal Town.

He has two sisters, Monique Tasacuce Long, age six, and Mia Fuswagee Long, age three.

His maternal grandparents are Taylor Long of Phoenix, Ariz. and Brenda Long of Oklahoma City.

His paternal great-grandparents are Rev. Harry and Mulsey Long of Muskogee.

He is the maternal great-grandson of the late Thompson and Lizzie Roberts.



Long

Joe Martel III

OKMULGEE—Joe Garza Martel III was born Oct. 14 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Kimberly Reagan and Joe Martel Jr. of Tulsa.

The baby weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and was 16 inches in length.

His paternal grandparents are Katherine Tecumseh of Okmulgee and Joe Martel of Arlington, Texas.

His paternal great-grandparents are Ramona Martel of Dallas, Texas and the late Isreal and Wisey Scott Tecumseh, Kvnicate area.

Maternal grandparents are Bridgette and Steve

Sapulpa Indian Community dedicates flag

Pictured during a recent dedication of a U.S. Flag donated to Sapulpa Indian Community, by Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church, are: Rev. John Fixico; Rev. Bill Foote, Pickett pastor; Judy Aaron, SIC chair; Thomas Tiger; Phillip Coon; Gilbert Matthews; Andrew Wildcat; and Mose Cahwee.

photo by Gerald Wofford



Reagan of Tulsa.

His maternal great-grandparents are Ann Fisher of Beggs and Bernice Biglow and Carl Reagan, both of Okmulgee.

Martel is the son of Kvnicate Tribal Town.

He has one sister, Casey, age five, of Oceanside, Calif.



Martel

Girl celebrates with "Power Puff" party

OKMULGEE—Jasmine Nicole Buckley celebrated her birthday on Nov. 11 with a "Power Puff" party theme at her home.

She turned age four on Nov. 6.

She is the daughter of Sheila and Richard Buckley Jr. of Okmulgee.

Her paternal grandparents are Richard Buckley of Clearview and Jackie Buckley of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor of Henryetta.

Paternal great-grandparents are Hepsy and Bill Harjo of Weleetka and the late Fannie and Sam Buckley.

Her maternal great-grandparents are Edna and the late Martin Mitchell of Henryetta and the late Lizzie Tiger.

Girl celebrates birthday with ladybug party

TULSA—Alaysia Opvnn Williams celebrated her birthday with a ladybug party theme on Oct. 21 at Wilson Indian Community Center.

Williams turned age three on Oct. 29.

Among those attending were: her parents, Shawn Williams and Nichole Green of Wilson; her sister, Mehenwa; her grandparents, Barton and Rita Williams of Wilson; her great-grandfather, Thomas Berryhill of Wilson; cousins, Eco Barnett of Bristow,

Ashley, Brittany, Kaylee, and Riley Berry of Wilson, Maya, Mekko, and Che Watson of Dewar, Braden Williams of Wilson; and friends, Jessica, Sheila, and Jonathon Beaver of Henryetta.

She is the maternal granddaughter of Tilda Green of Valley Center, Calif.

She belongs to the Coyote Clan and is the daughter of the Alligator Clan and Kassetv Tribal Town.

She is of Maskoke and Kumeyaay descent.



Williams

Community

Oklahoma City Maskokulke elect officers

OKLAHOMA CITY—The members of Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association, a tribally chartered community, elected new officers at their October meeting.

The new officers are: president, Dr. Blue Clark; vice president, Ted Isham; treasurer, Sam Barnett; secretary, Marcella Owen; and at-large member, George Bunny.

The association holds its regular meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Its December monthly meeting will be held on Dec. 5.

The center is located at 543 S.E. 29th St.

For more information, call Bunny at (405) 947-7752.

Paden Indian community elects officers

PADEN—Paden Muscogee Indian Community held its second election on Sept. 11.

Its new officers are: chair, Billy Dean Cobble; vice chair, Monica Whitson; and secretary-treasurer, Ada Johnson.

"PMIC would like to give a big thanks to the outgoing chairperson Mr. Dean Lee and vice-chairperson Ms. Tracey Lee for all of their hard work this past year," Johnson said.

The community's monthly meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at Paden High School.

Obituaries-religion

JESS HARJO

YARDEKA—Funeral Services for Jess Harjo were held on Oct. 13 at Hickory Ground No. 1 Baptist Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Wake services were held at the church on Oct. 12.

Harjo was born March 27, 1921 in Paden. He died Oct. 9 at Hillcrest Medical Center after a lengthy illness.

He was employed with Page Van Lines in Tulsa for many years.

He is survived by: his wife, Darcille; daughters, Helen Murie of Pawnee, Betty Jake of Hominy, and Margaret Harjo of Tulsa; three sons, Billy and Reuben Harjo, both of Tulsa, and Bruce Frye of Henryetta; one sister, Mary Jane Black of Pawnee; one brother, Virgil Harjo of Wichita, Kan.; 14 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Burial was at Soweka Cemetery.

RUSSELL THOMPSON

OKEMAH—Traditional Maskoke funeral services for Russell Lee Thompson were held Oct. 13 at his home with ceremonial ground leaders officiating.

Wake services were held Oct. 12 at the home also.

He was born July 23, 1930 in Pierce to Newman and Cinda Sootawakey Thompson. He died Oct. 10.

Thompson was a medicine man and tribal chief for 30 years and had served in the U.S. Army.

He and Irene Proctor married on April 10, 1992

United Methodist Board celebrates, apologizes for its history

WASHINGTON—An unusual litany was used when members of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society gathered in the Simpson Chapel of the denomination's building on Capitol Hill Oct. 7.

Before touring the refurbished building and walking around the U.S. Capitol grounds on a crisp fall morning, board members joined in "A Litany of Remembrance and Repentance," written for the occasion by staff executive Jaydee Hanson.

Failures for which the board asked forgiveness included the fact that the United Methodist Building was segregated for the first 35 years of its existence and that it was many years before women became executives at the board.

The litany celebrated the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s preaching in the same chapel and his use of an office in the building as his base in Washington. Also praised were the marches for women's rights that were planned in the building.

"We repent of the years during which we did no work with Native Americans despite their being one of the most impoverished groups in America,"

Indian Fellowship Baptist Church 22nd Annual Gospel Singing

OAKHURST—Indian Fellowship Baptist Church held its 22nd annual gospel singing on Oct. 21.

Among gospel groups that were present included: "Beverly Adair and Higher Ground" of Muskogee; "The Conquerors of Oklahoma City"; "The Cornerstone" of McAlester; and "The Tiger Family" of Sapulpa.

The master of ceremonies for the singing was Darrell "Spooky" Wesley of Checotah.



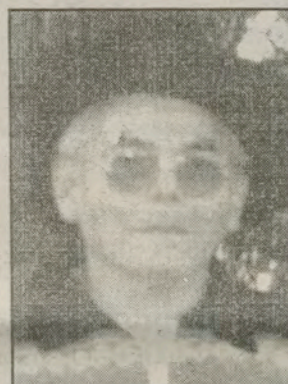
photo by Denise Jacobs

Pictured during the grand finale jam are: The Cornerstone's Stella Walker and Vanessa Allen, both of McAlester; Les Billy of Broken Arrow; Darrell "Spooky" Wesley of Checotah; Beverly Adair of Muskogee; Jeremy Scott of Wilburton; and Revena Tiger of Sapulpa.

at the old Thompson homeplace in Henryetta.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; two sisters, Cindy Thompson and Bessie Freeman; one brother, Henry Thompson; and one newborn grandson.

He is survived by: his wife of the home; one son, Russell Lee Thompson Jr. of Castle; four daughters, Terry Cassinger of Porum, Elizabeth Thompson of Bristow, Shirley Thompson of Council Hill and Deborah Burgess of Okmulgee;



Thompson

five stepsons, Legus Harjo, Randy Harjo, Ronnie Harjo, Lewis Harjo Jr. and Jerry Harjo, all of Oklahoma City; three stepdaughters, Emily Edgars of Cartwright, and Marlene Scott and Melody Robertson, both of Oklahoma City; three sisters; four brothers; 20 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: Lijah "Bonn" Bear; Neil Fisher; Joe Bear Jr.; Aaron Burgess; Lucas Taylor; and Walter Taylor Jr. Honorary pallbearers were: Dustin Cloud; Mawata Miner; Steve Thompson; Reuben Freeman Jr.; Ray Jackson; and Jeff Proctor.

Gratitude

A heartfelt thanks is offered to all who helped out during our time of need.

All the prayers, flowers, and items brought to the church were greatly appreciated. Even if you just thought of us that day, you will not be forgotten. A special thanks is offered to: Rev. Wayne Taryole; Rev. Wilson Hicks; Rev. Robert Washington; members of Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church; Victor Gutierrez; Eunice Hill; Thlophlocco; Bristow Indian Community; all the speakers; and all who prepared food.

May God bless you all—mvto.

Thelma "Hokte" Barnett Family

Religion

Tookparfka holding revival in November

CALVIN—Tookparfka Baptist Church is holding a revival Nov. 13 through 17 beginning at seven nightly.

The evangelist is Clint St. Clair.

The church is located six miles south of Horntown on state highway 75 and three and one-half miles east.

For more information, call Charlie Frank at (405) 379-5546.

Coker

continued from page 1

come back home." Upon returning home, Coker enrolled at nearby Eastern State College in Ada. There Coker would major in general education.

Upon graduation in 1950, Coker began teaching in her hometown. Although only spending one year there, Coker remembers one student who made an impact on her.

I had a student who was a born a stutterer, said Coker. The school had arranged for a Christmas pageant to be performed that year. "It just so happened that I was the director for that year, so I was in charge of casting the parts. I gave [this student] a part in the play and he performed very well. I remember, after the play, his mother approached me and said that was one of the most special things anyone had ever done for him." Years later, Coker would meet this student again, this time as an adult, and he would also express his thankfulness at the opportunity.

It is this one act that truly describes Coker. It is of a giving and concerned spirit that motivates her to seek out the best—for her and for others.

It has been this spirit that has motivated Coker to be involved with such groups as the Este Mvskoke, a

watchdog group, which has encouraged citizens to become more involved in the tribal voting process and politics.

More recently, Coker has been involved with a group called Osten, comprised of four military veterans of World War II. Coker—along with fellow Osten members Phillip Coon, Charlie Coker, her husband, and the late Monroe Sulphur—felt that a monument of some type should be built to commemorate fallen military heroes of past wars.

In May of 1999, Osten was able to see dream become reality with the dedication of the Muscogee Veterans Memorial—a striking monument located west of the administration building on the tribal capitol complex.

Coker is also involved with other groups such as Women in Military Service and OK Mariners, a group made up of sea service veterans in Oklahoma.

Coker is not only proud of her Muscogee heritage, but her Navy heritage also. Her influence seems to have affected younger family members with a nephew who recently retired from the Naval service. A nephew, by marriage, is enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a fighter pilot.

On Nov. 4, Coker will receive another mark of distinction. She, along with several other female vet-

erans, were honored at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma City, in recognition of Women Veterans Week—Nov. 5 through 11.

A quilt, sewn by Margie Williams of the U.S. Army, was presented to retired U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Wilma Vaught. The quilt contains the names and pictures of many female veterans, including Coker's sister—Elaine Anderson—who served in the U.S. Marines.

Coker sees the honor as a unique experience and an honor to be included with other female veterans.

Coker, a member of Koweta Tribal Town and the Alligator Clan has made it a point to take time out and be in touch with others and current events.

Coker even volunteers her time, offering to speak with young people about the history of the tribe.

"A lot of our young people have no idea of what our ancestors went through, coming on the Trail of Tears."

If the culture and tradition of a tribe is not to die out, it must first be shared with the next generation—Coker exemplifies this responsibility as a tribal elder.

When others that are the age of Coker are considering retirement from general everyday life and sheltering themselves away, Coker continues to embrace life and fully enjoy it.

Filings

continued from page 2

CRM 2000-09 Davis: Robert—breach of peace

Divorces:

D 2000-06 Longhorn: Terrie v. Longhorn: Bradley

D 2000-07 Hicks: Melody v. Hicks: Charley

Ex-Partes:

PO 2000-32 Childers: Margie v. Childers: Joe

PO 2000-33 McNac: Gloria v. Foster: David

PO 2000-34 Tiger: Cynthia v. Todome: Salina and Howard, Jr.

PO 2000-35 Premeaux: Bertha L. v. Simmer: Rhonda E.

PO 2000-36 Premeaux: Rhonda E. v. Simmer: Rhonda

Civil:

CV 2000-122 Service Collection Association v. Burgess: Helen C.

CV 2000-123 Star Loans v. Fixico: Edna

CV 2000-124 First Family Federal Credit Union v. Smith: Gale

CV 2000-125 Roberts: Wynema v. Pigeon: Missy

CV 2000-126 Roberts: Wynema v. McNac: Donny and Louise

Notices

continued from page 4

the percent of infants born at low birth weight. The report presents data for the nation as well as key indicators by state.

During the 1990s, teen birth rates declined among white, black, American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander and Hispanic women ages 15 to 19, with the largest decline a 30 percent drop among black teens. Hispanic teens reported the smallest decline of 13 percent. Between 1998-1999, the sharpest decline (six percent) was for American Indian teenagers followed closely by a five percent drop for black teens.

"In the last few years, we've made remarkable

Tobacco

continued from page 4

that she approached the tribal government with a proposition. Coachman, along with the late Jimmy "Bunny" Hill—who was the administrator of Okmulgee Health Center at the time—requested the Muscogee National Council levy a percentage from the tribe's overall tobacco sales, from tribally owned smoke shops, to fund tobacco abuse education programs. The Council listened and voted to give \$000.1 from every tobacco sale to this project. "The Council passed this amendment into law back in March of last year, as of April of this year, the amount is now up to \$20,000. The money will definitely be put to good use. It will allow us to prepare material and talk to our youth about tobacco substance abuse."

Coachman has also looked to other entities for financial support and has been successful. The Muscogee Nation Health Administration was recently awarded a grant for a tobacco prevention program from the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga. Through the five year grant, \$157,842 will be administered to the program yearly. The grant will allow

progress in reducing the teen birth rate," said U.S. Health and Human Services secretary Donna E. Shalala. "Parents, local communities, government, and teens themselves have all been part of writing this success story. Everyone benefits when teens postpone pregnancy until they are ready to assume the responsibility and appreciate the wonder of raising children," she said.

"Births: Preliminary Data for 1999" is based on birth records filed in state vital statistics offices and reported to the CDC through the National Vital Statistics System. The report is available to view or download on the CDC/NCHS web site at www.cdc.gov/nchs.

Coachman and other tribal health officials to educate American Indians about the dangerous effects of tobacco abuse with the end result being the prevention of smoking and promotion of smoking cessation.

To many American Indians this may be a confusing subject, given the fact that tobacco is a plant that has been grown and used for generations.

"We are not advocating total abstinence, we respect and understand the use of tobacco at ceremonial grounds and for medicinal use. What we are advocating is the everyday harmful use [that] tobacco can bring on one's self and others, like secondhand smoke—which can be just as bad as the person who is directly smoking."

Coachman even urges Indians to grow their own tobacco, without the chemicals and additives of modern commercial tobacco. This has led her to meet Lawrence Shorty of Albuquerque, N.M., an American Indian who grows and sells unprocessed, natural tobacco.

Coachman believes with proper education and usage, tobacco natives can return tobacco to its proper place.

"If we can respect this herb properly, and not abuse it, it will be a helpmeet and not a detriment."

Farm Service Agency holding elections

McALESTER—Voted ballots for Farm Service Agency Committee elections for local administrative areas three and five must be returned by Dec. 4.

Area three includes the following areas: Ashland; Kiowa; Pittsburgh; Weathers; and Jack Fork Mountains.

Area five includes the following areas: Burney; Pierce; Brush Hill; Onapa; Texanna; Checotah; Shady Grove; Rentiesville; and Hitchita.

All agriculture producers, farmers, and ranchers are encouraged to participate in the election.

For more information, contact the Farm Service Agency at: 200 S. 3rd Street Suite A, McAlester, OK 74501; or call (918) 423-4073, ext. 2.

Muscogee Film Festival

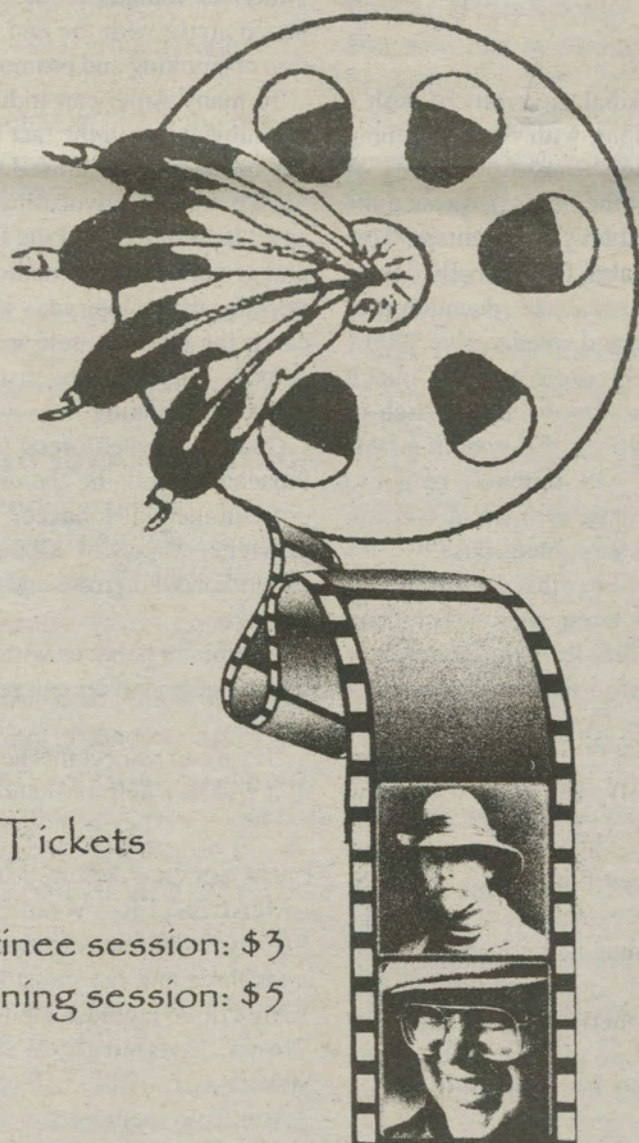
an event of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Communications Department

Nov. 17 & 18

OSU-Tulsa campus auditorium, 700 N. Greenwood Ave.

The World Premiere of
"Your Guardian"
Featuring Actress Irene Bedard
In a Nontraditional Role



Tickets

Nov. 17: \$5

Nov. 18 matinee session: \$3

Nov. 18 evening session: \$5

7 p.m., Nov. 17:

- "On and Off the Rez with Charlie Hill"
- "Coming to Light—Edward S. Curtis and the North American Indians"

Matinee—1 p.m., Nov. 18:

- "Eufaula/Okmulgee Pow-wow"

In tune with the festival's objective of promoting local native filmmakers, Muscogee (Creek) Director Vernon Courtwright of Onapa presents his production of these yearly events.

- "Jerome Tiger: The Man and His Legacy"
- "En Pointe: The Lives and Legacies of Ballet's Native Americans"

An introduction will be offered by native ballerina Moscelyn Larkin of Tulsa.

Evening session—7 p.m., Nov. 18:

- "Your Guardian"

To get to OSU-Tulsa from Interstate 244, take the Cincinnati/Detroit Avenue exit north and turn north on Detroit Avenue, then east on John Hope Franklin Boulevard. For more information, call Gerald Wofford at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 220 or e-mail comm1@ocevnet.org

All proceeds to benefit the Native American Film Scholarship Fund



The Muscogee Nation News

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December 2000, 8 pages

Pastor's arrival impetus for establishment of "Native American Day" in Montgomery, Alabama

by Gerald Wofford

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—When Rev. Niegel Bigpond arrived in Montgomery, Ala. to conduct church services, he did not realize that he would be the impetus for the city's proclamation of "Native American Day."

He arrived in the area to lead revivals as he has done numerous times throughout the U.S., but this time he would leave with the keys to the City of Montgomery.

When Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright had heard that Bigpond, a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen, would be in the

area he seized the opportunity to reach out not only to Bigpond, but Native Americans as well.



photo by Gerald Wofford

Rev. Bigpond is pictured in his office with the proclamation and a certificate of recognition given to him by State of Alabama Gov. Don Siegelman.

"As many people are well aware, Montgomery, Alabama is near the historic site of [The Battle of] Horseshoe Bend where a great contingent of Creek citizens were wiped out by federal forces," said Bigpond.

"Mayor Bright, city officials, and a representative from the Alabama governor's office attended one of the

church services held in Montgomery. After the service, the mayor spoke to the audience and proclaimed August 19th as 'Native American Day' in the City of Montgomery. The proclamation stated Mayor

Bright and the City of Montgomery's

please see **BIGPOND...**, page 8

Muscogee People

Maskoke woman remembered for lifetime of great and selfless achievement

by Wanda Johnson

The life of full-blood Muscogee citizen Jean Hill Chaudhuri was extraordinary, diverse, and exemplified dedication and involvement.

She was born in 1937 on the Hill Family allotment in near Okemah. She was given the Maskoke name Hayayetka, meaning the first light of dawn.

She played a key role in various intertribal traditional gatherings in Henryetta in the 60s. In the early 50s, Jean and her family were involved with various community service programs and activities. She was also

Maskoke woman receives honor

PHOENIX — On Oct. 20 Muscogee tribal citizen Jean Hill Chaudhuri was posthumously recognized as "Outstanding Native American Leader" at the 18th Annual Native American

see **HONOR...**, page 3

involved with the Creek centralization committee push for elected tribal leadership rather than presidential appointments.

In 1964-65 she was active in northeast Ohio, pointing out the underlying Indian history of the area.



While in South Dakota — 1965-69 — she was involved in coordinating Indian cultural programs and was also active in several civil rights issues in Dakota

country. She obtained more signatures than any one petitioner in order to put Sen. Eugene McCarthy on the 1968 ballot in the South Dakota presidential primary.

Jean was also involved in community service for Indians and non-Indians while living in Florida from 1969 to 1972. She was involved in the civil rights movement at a tough time for black Americans in Leon, Fla. and neighboring counties. She worked with the Doris Duke Oral History Project at the University of Florida and regularly conducted oral history fieldwork among the Seminoles and Miccosukees in south Florida. Her efforts helped preserve Maskoke and Seminole knowledge and traditions of the "Four Seasons of a Woman's Life" — a tribal philosophical tradition that had nearly been lost and forgotten. She

please see **CHAUDHURI...**, page 3

O Christmas Tree...



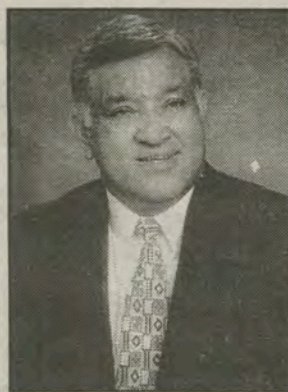
photo by Stephanie Barnett

Three year old Tyler Hill of Okmulgee puts the finishing touch on the tribe's Okmulgee Child Development Center Christmas tree with the help of Teacher's Aide Virgil "Bubba" Sanders of Henryetta. Other students pictured are: Sydney Stroble, age three, of Okmulgee; Mykalia Frank, age three, of Dewar; Matthew Bunner, age four, of Henryetta; and Makelti Ballard, age three, of Okmulgee.

On behalf of the Great Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Merry Christmas to you and to all whom you hold dear. May this joyous season find each of you well in body and spirit and may the excitement and expectation of this wondrous time bring you cheer and hope that will last all year.

May the goodwill and friendship of this season embrace your hearts and warm the family circle as you gather together to celebrate family and friends. From my family to yours, our prayers and good thoughts are with each of you. Have a happy and safe Holiday!

Sincerely,
R. Perry Beaver,
Principal Chief



Letters to the editor

Citizen gives kudos to reunion contributors

Editor:

It seems as if our team effort is improving each time we join forces to coordinate a Euchee Indian Mission School Reunion. It wouldn't be fair to let this one pass by us without a sincere thanks to all those special hands that pitched in to do their share.

We never want to overlook the people who prepared the food for all of us and that special thanks goes to: LeAnn High; Linda Thornberg; and Doris Yocham. Spokes Buck was also there to do what he could.

John Freeman and Jess Freeman Jr. coordinated handled the golf tournament and had a great turnout.

Phillip Coon was instrumental in arranging a site location for our reunion and also had a major portion in our program agenda. Phillip was always there to help whenever and wherever. He contributed much to our printed programs, such as photos and maps of the Euchee campus.

Jerry Haney convinced everyone he is a top-notch auctioneer. He sold every item on the list and made money for us. He was also instrumental in arranging for the Seminole Nation Color Guard to post the colors.

Special appreciation is extended to Amos Birdcreek and Birdcreek Phillips for their help with the registration table, ticket dispensing, and collecting donations for our program booklets.

I'm looking forward to Jim Hubbard's recording of

the oral testaments of Euchee memories. He persisted until he recorded all the alumni who were there.

Many viewed and enjoyed the display of Euchee photos brought by Mose Cahwee and Phillip Coon.

Last but not least, thanks is offered to Jacob Harjo and Jimmy Anderson for their prayers to open and close our gathering for the year 2000.

Gene Leitka, Albuquerque, N.M.

Editor's note: Gene Leitka was the Euchee Indian Mission School Reunion coordinator.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Happy holidays to everyone! The long Thanksgiving weekend is over and back to work for most.

Many of us enjoy good health and are thankful for the essentials we enjoy each day, but this is not the case for all. We must remember the unfortunate who are struggling to survive — families who lack adequate housing; children who go to bed hungry each night; and young men and women who have lost their way and



Ellis

wonder aimlessly throughout life only to dream of what others have. My purpose is to help all our Muscogee people to become better prepared to get the best out of their efforts in the future.

November was designated National Native American Indian Month by President Clinton. I visited several schools in November and offered students an overview of the Nation's historic past and present. Our own Indian students and teachers are unaware of the complex operations of our tribal government. A solid public relations program would be great to educate the general public about the tribe's impact on the area in which our tribal jurisdictional boundaries encompass. As an employer of over

1,400, with a \$1 million financial investment in the area economy, the tribe is no small matter.

A big plus for our Nation is the new travel plaza that is due to start construction very soon in Muskogee, the demolition of the old icehouse, the former Gibson's property, and the Oak Dale Gymnasium. These are just a few of the upcoming economic development projects that everyone will witness next year. As new developments and projects take shape you will be made aware in the upcoming "Second Opinion."

A big congratulations is extended to our office of attorney general and the lighthouse administration staff that participated in the National Domestic Violence Against Women Conference. The holiday season is a particularly bad time for domestic violence. Many factors contribute, including family problems, alcohol and drugs, and just plain poverty. I have, in my lifetime, faced the same issues. I worked in the private sector all of my life where many times layoffs occurred around Christmas. Today I am very thankful that, through hard work and dedication, I am able to work for all Muscogee citizens. I try very hard to address all issues that I receive in my office. I answer all phone calls the same day if at all possible. For those that I cannot help, I apologize; I am doing my best at everything I do.

I send greetings and best wishes to all and may the power above bless you—Merry Christmas. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the Nov. 18 regular session.

In Council business it:

- returned to committee National Council Act 00-54, a bill establishing revised guidelines for the tribal burial assistance/food allowance program and repealing all previous tribal burial ordinances;
- postponed NCA 00-159, a bill amending the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority contracts and/or agreements with contractors for home repairs;
- postponed NCA 00-164, a bill appropriating funds to advertise for bids to demolish the old Sapulpa Head Start building and to construct a new Head Start center at the same location;
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 00-169, authorizing the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Service to expend grant funds for a juvenile delinquency prevention program in the amount of \$20,000 and appropriating a supplemental amount in the sum of \$14,991 to carry out the full intent of the grant as initially requested from the granting agency and amending NCA 00-125 (comprehensive annual budget) for fiscal year 2001;
- approved (12-11-1) NCA 00-171, establishing a scholarship fund for Muscogee students attending Bacone College;
- approved (21-2-0) NCA 00-174, a bill repealing NCA 95-84 and adopting the revised motor vehicle tax code;

- approved, (20-3-0) NCA 00-178, authorizing the expenditure of the service award for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program for construction of a Head Start center in Tulsa and authorizing a supplemental appropriation

Seasons Greetings

from the
Muscogee (Creek) National Council

The National Council would like send the following seasons greetings to the citizens and employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well as friends and the general public:

Let this be a time to join together in love and harmony among all our people and have a very Merry Christmas and start the new millennium with great expectations of peace and hope for the world.

for an aerobic sewage system and an additional classroom;

- approved unanimously (22-0-0), NCA 00-179, a bill authorizing the principal chief to pursue the Muskogee Bureau of Indian Affairs office complex project;
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 00-182, authorizing the expenditure of a grant entitled "The American Indian/Alaska Native Support Centers for Tobacco Programs" from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 00-184, authorizing the expenditure of low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) funds in the amount of \$28,955 received by the social services program;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 00-186, authorizing the expenditure of a revised U.S. Department of Agriculture grant award (a supplemental amount of \$41,912) and requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$13,970 to be used as a 25 percent tribal match for the \$41,912 supplemental award received by the food distribution program (division of community services);

• approved unanimously (22-0) NCA 00-149, amending NCA 99-02, as amended by NCA 00-46, to establish a new effective date for the sales tax code within the Muscogee Nation and other purposes;

• approved (19-2-0) NCA 00-188, authorizing a special appropriation for Brad Fish to attend the Indian National Finals Rodeo in Albuquerque, N.M.;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 00-190, authorizing a special request for additional funds to complete the renovations and for start up costs of the Okemah Indian Community Gaming Project; and

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 00-191, authorizing the expenditure of department of health and human services expansion and onetime funds awarded to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program;

Editor's note: These are the unofficial results of the Nov. 18 regular session of the Muscogee National Council. They will not be official until approved by the Council.

Chaudhuri

continued from page 1

helped change the name of the basketball team mascot—then called the derogatory "Chief Fullabull." She coordinated visits of tribal leaders and medicine men from various tribes for the purpose of community education.

During the 1970s she became the first executive director of Tucson [Ariz.] Indian Center before going on to become the director of Traditional Indian Alliance. She was involved in service programs offered to ethnic peoples in the areas of: after school tutoring; employment assistance; alcoholism counseling; halfway house work; and many different kinds of social services. She was the founder of the first off-reservation Indian health clinic in Tucson—originally started with donated time and monies—which is still in operation, working with the U.S. Indian Health Service/Public Health Service.

Jean also established an urban children's dance troupe—"The Duck Dancers." For her Tucson involvement, the American Institute of Public Service gave her the Jefferson Medal for local public service, then for state service. The institute awarded her a national medal and award which she accepted in the U.S. Supreme Court building in 1977 with Justice White presiding. As part of her acceptance, she sang a traditional Maskoke song.

From 1979 to 1985 she worked on alcoholism prevention programs—where she was a leader in Mothers Against Drunk Driving in southern New Mexico—and other cultural programs in New Mexico. She also founded a service group—"Indian Women in Progress."

During 1985 to 1997 Jean pursued the twin goals of general public usage of the Phoenix [Ariz.] Indian School property and it serving as an ongoing reminder of the boarding school policies of earlier times, the people it affected, as well as the continued attempt to preserve Indian cultures. She led a volunteer team of math, science, and English tutors for the last two years that classes were held at the school. In connection with the school's impending closing, she organized the Native American Heritage Preservation Coalition which met regularly and was involved in educating the community and governmental leaders on the importance of honoring the legacy of Phoenix Indian School. Jean's intent was more than that of monetary compensation for land transfer. Her efforts directly contributed to the preservation of much of the school's buildings and land as well as the creation of the soon to be developed Indian School Park.

During the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Christopher Columbus, she constructively attempted to educate people on living Indian cultures and their challenges through the production of "Indians Discover Christopher Columbus." She also coordinated several programs at Phoenix Indian School, including the production of her play "The Four Seasons of an Indian Woman's Life."

Jean was a frequent speaker at many public, civic,

and church group meetings. An immense resource for Maskoke and Seminole oral history and a fluent Maskoke speaker, she shared her stories with audiences much of her life.

In spite of a busy life she found time to write. Her legacy is full of many papers and manuscripts.

She also offered support to people in local service agencies, national church organizations, and organizations that addressed world hunger. While in India she visited several orphanages including Mother Teresa's program in Calcutta.

Jean was a statewide coordinator for Indian counseling through the chaplain's office in the Arizona Corrections System. Despite serious health challenges, in the hours just before her death, she had gone to the Holbrook, Ariz. area to give spiritual counseling to incarcerated Indian people. She died at her home in Tempe, Ariz.

Spiritually, she was never away from her roots in Oklahoma. She regularly returned for sharing, renewal, and involvement.

Jean was also a very loving mother, wife, sister, daughter and daughter-in-law. Public involvement has its prices and she paid them often. Ultimately though, hers was an exemplary life of service and achievement by an Indian woman.

Honor

continued from page 1

can Days. The award was accepted by her husband, Joy; sons, Paul and Jon; and her sister, Richinda Sands.

Many dignitaries and leaders were present at the ceremony held at the Heard Museum. Chaudhuri's nomination for the honor was submitted by Wanda Johnson, Navajo, a former Miss Indian America.

Chaudhuri's book to be released

"A Sacred Path: The Way of the Muscogee Creeks," a book coauthored by Jean and Joy Chaudhuri, is scheduled for publication in February 2001.

The book is a detailed analysis of classic Muscogee values and is based on Jean Chaudhuri's lifetime oral history work.

Muscogee Vet



Muscogee Veterans Day Observance

Above: Army veteran (World War II Prisoner of War) Phillip Coon of Sapulpa addresses the audience after the laying of the wreath.

Starting counter clock-wise from the top center photo:

- Air Force veteran (Vietnam War) Patrick Moore of Okmulgee delivers the principal address during the observance.

- Navy veteran (Korean War) Rev. Felix Tiger, right, of Okmulgee delivers the invocation. Army veteran (Vietnam War) and master of ceremonies Robert "Bill" Jones of Okmulgee is pictured at left.

- Muscogee tribal citizen Pearl Thomas of Okmulgee sings "God Bless The USA."

- Pictured, left to right, are: Coon; Army veteran (WWII) Col. Ernest Childers of Coweta; and Kenneth Childers of Glenpool.

- Mvskoke Honor Guard veterans Loy Thomas of Okmulgee, Smiley Barnett of Henryetta, and Thomas Yahola of Wetumka prepare to post the colors.

- Moore and Coon
- K. Childers and Col. Childers
- U.S. Air Force veteran (WWII) Charlie Coker, right, of Schulter presents his rendition of the 45th Infantry Division flag to U.S. Army veteran (WWII) Col. Edwin Moore of Muskogee, left.

Center: Medal of Honor recipient Col. Childers addresses the audience at the observance.

photos by Gerald Wofford



Mvto

Observance coordinator Robert Jones would like to express his gratitude to the following:

Charlie & Jorene Coker

Col. Edwin Moore

Col. Ernest Childers

Eufaula Indian Community

*Facilities Manager Danny Roberts
& staff*

Koweta Indian Community

Linda Milligan~The Blossom Shop

Patrick Moore

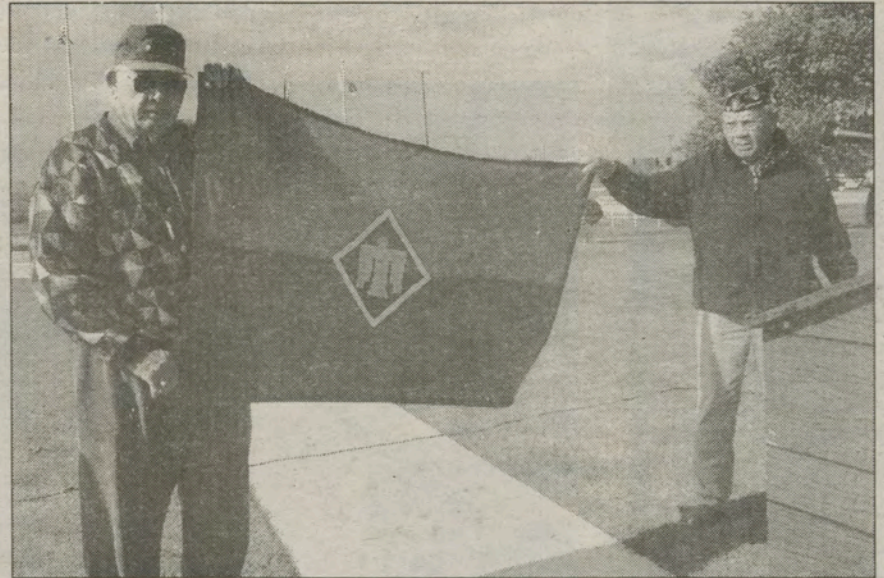
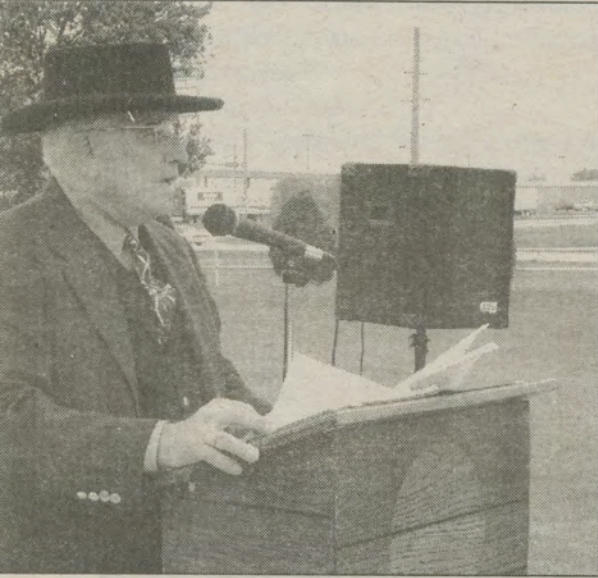
Phillip Coon

Second Chief and Mrs. A.D. Ellis

The Muscogee Nation News



erans Day observance



Muscogee

Muscogee
Film Festival

Above: Francine Morris and her mother, Suzy, far right—both of Muskogee—are pictured with Comanche Codetalker Charles Chibitty of Tulsa.

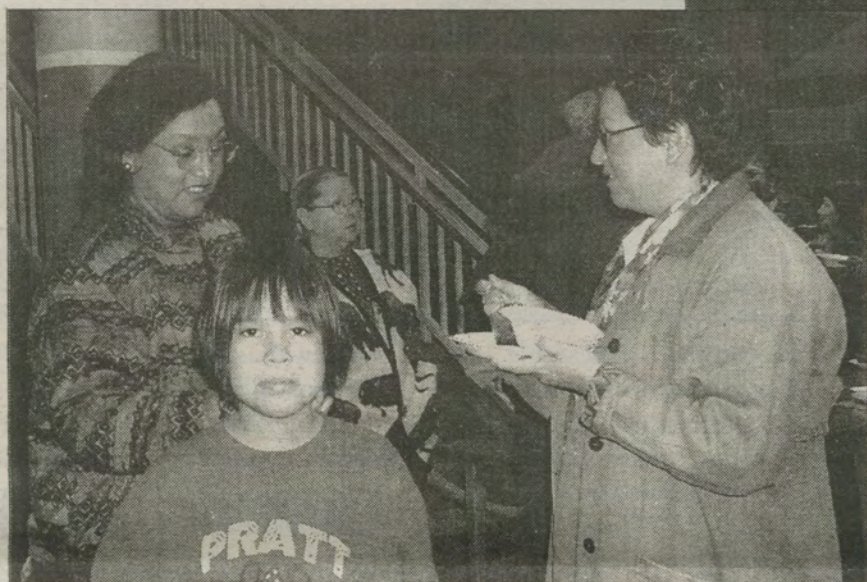
Starting clockwise from the top left photo:

- Chibitty speaks of his experiences while the directors of "The Last Comanche Codetalker Recollections of Charles Chibitty"—Jeff Eskew and Eric and Dwayne Noble, all of Mannford—look on.
- Mike Brock of Tulsa, Vickie McIntosh of Sapulpa, and Kelly Cries For Ribs of Tulsa enjoy traditional Indian fare served after the Nov. 18th evening feature.
- Jessica and Susan—both of Sand Springs—and Kim Arkeketa, of Okay, visit during the reception.
- Reception caterer Melba Williams, far right, of Tulsa and her daughter, Kathy Skeeter, serve OSU-Tulsa technician Larry Brandt.
- Festival coordinator Gerald Wofford poses with Tulsan Moscelyn Larkin who was featured in "En Pointe: The Lives and Legacies of Ballet's Native Americans."
- Vernon Courtwright of Onapa talks about his production—"Eufaula/Okmulgee Pow-wow."
- Union students Jacob Townsend and Sage Garland are pictured with Gregory H. Bigler. Bigler, a Sapulpa photographer, spoke to the youth during the film festival's Native American Visual Arts Education Day.
- Union students Steve Hill, Opal Delancy, Jacob Townsend, Dustin Moore, Monte Barnes, Summer Litsey, and Kevin Currie are pictured with T-shirts they received for answering visual arts-related questions.

photos by
Stephanie Barnett
&
Denise Jacobs



Film Festival



Fannie Mae and FNFI announce curriculum

WASHINGTON—The Fannie Mae Foundation and First Nations Development Institute recently announced a financial literacy curriculum—"Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families"—developed specifically for American Indian families.

The curriculum is a tool to help native people build on their own knowledge and develop personal financial skills while "embracing" native traditions and values, such as: interconnection between generations; folklore wisdom; and historical experience.

"Building Native Communities: Financial Skills for Families" includes an instructor's guide and participant workbooks that will enable educators to help native families strengthen their personal financial skills. The curriculum provides 18 hours of training, including, for example, sessions on: "Building a Healthy Economy," "Developing a Spending Plan," "Working with Checking and Savings Accounts," "Understanding Credit," "Your Credit Reports," and "How to Access Credit."

"This first-of-its-kind curriculum acknowledges traditional Native American values while teaching financial skills that will help Native Americans make informed financial decisions for themselves, their families, and their communities," said Stacey H. Davis, president and CEO of the Fannie Mae Foundation. "Our mission at the Fannie Mae Foundation is to revitalize communities through home ownership. This curriculum will provide native communities with important tools to help them gain control of their financial resources and get a good start on the path to home ownership."

The new curriculum materials were developed not only to help individuals make informed financial decisions and gain control of their finances, but also to teach them specifically about saving for the future. The Fannie Mae Foundation and First Nations believe that the basic building blocks of self-reliant, economically healthy communities — now and for future generations — are households empowered with financial tools and skills.

"Native communities have traditionally managed their resources wisely, whether it was the salmon catch, harvesting wild rice, herding sheep, or following the buffalo," said Sherry Salway Black, vice president of First Nations Development Institute. "This ground breaking curriculum was designed by the Fannie Mae Foundation and First Nations to help native communities apply their traditional skills to the management of financial resources."

The Fannie Mae Foundation creates affordable home ownership and housing opportunities through partnerships and initiatives that build communities across the U. S.

For more information about the Fannie Mae Foundation, visit www.fanniemaefoundation.org or call Antonio Tijerino at (202) 274-8064.

Investing in the assets and abilities of Native communities is the mission of First Nations Development Institute. First Nations helps tribal members mobilize their own enterprises and communities with a strategy that coordinates local grass roots projects with national programs and policy development initiatives to build capacity for self-reliant reservation communities.

For more information visit www.firstnations.org or contact Jerry Reynolds at (540) 371-5615.

Information on Euchee school veterans sought

MOORE—Military information is being sought on Euchee Indian Mission School alumni.

The information will become a part of an encased American flag given to Euchee alumni during the Euchee Indian

Muscogee Nation employees of the month recognized

OKMULGEE—Muscogee Nation employees of the month were recently recognized for the months of May, July, August, and September.

May—Lanissa Jack

Lanissa Jack, office clerk III, was selected as May employee of the month.

Jack's duties consist of answering phones, typing, and developing photographs in the realty office. She has been employed with realty for one year.

The most rewarding aspect of her job is being able to communicate with others and assisting clients and coworkers.

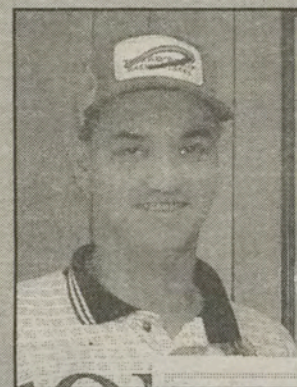
She spends her spare time watching movies, shopping, and spending time with her son, Dylan Jack.

July—Micki Deere

Micki Deere was selected as July employee of the



Jack



Brown

month. She is a teacher at Yeager Head start.

August—Shannon Brown

Shannon Brown is the August employee of the month.

Brown is a property maintenance worker in the for the child development centers. He has been employed with the Nation for two years.

The most rewarding aspect of his job is seeing that the center students have safe facilities to learn and grow in.

Shannon is a graduate of Liberty Mounds High School.

Brown enjoys team roping, shoeing horses, and spending time with his daughter, Sierra Sky Brown.

September—Jan Bigpond

Jan Bigpond was selected as September employee of the month. She is the secretary for the general services administration.

Mission School Memorial Monument dedication at Sapulpa in 1998. The encased flag will be preserved be on display and preserved at the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. Photographs of Euchee alumni veterans in uniform is integral to the display, so all alumni are encouraged to submit pictures.

The following information is requested:

- name;
- tribe;
- years at Euchee Indian Mission School;
- years of military service;
- military branch;
- locations and stations assigned;
- foreign service assignments;
- rate or rank upon discharge; and
- a photograph in military uniform.

Send the information to: Jess Freeman Jr., 1200 Penn Lane, Moore, OK 73160; or call (405) 799-7305.

It is requested that individuals that have the following information — name; military branch; military years; and tribe — on Euchee alumni veterans contact Freeman also.

Fire and burns third leading cause of death

OKLAHOMA CITY—Fires and burns are the third-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children in the United States. Each year, 1,000 children ages 14 and under die in residential fires. As most fires occur during the home heating season, now is an appropriate time

to review fire safety tips.

Eliminate potential fire hazards:

- keep matches, lighters and other heat sources out of children's reach. Playing with matches and lighters is the leading cause of fire deaths and injuries for children ages five and under. For more information in Oklahoma call Operation Firesafe at (405) 234-2264
- remove anything too close to a fireplace, heater, or radiator, such as clothing, furniture, newspapers, or magazines;
- avoid plugging several appliance cords into the same electrical socket;
- replace old or unraveled appliance cords and keep them on top of rugs; and
- store all flammable liquids such as gasoline outside of the home and away from open flames such as pilot lights on water heaters.

Plan ahead:

- buy and install smoke detectors. Install smoke detectors on every level of your home or apartment and in each sleeping area;
- test and maintain smoke detectors once a month. Replace batteries at least once a year. In addition, smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years; and
- plan and practice two escape routes out of the house or apartment. Fire drills should be practiced spontaneously at night since 50 percent of fire deaths in the home occur between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.

people with diverse backgrounds to promote understanding, repentance, and healing..."

In essence, Bigpond feels that the act by city officials was sincere and meant to bring about healing to Indians and non-Indians.

"I was not prepared for this ceremony at all," said Bigpond, "but what they (city officials) were doing was asking for forgiveness. It is my desire to contact [Muscogee Nation Principal] Chief [R. Perry] Beaver and tribal officials and bring both sides together next August 19th for the second anniversary in Montgomery."

Bigpond

continued from page 1

full support for the ministry of reconciliation and urge the active participation of all citizens of Montgomery in the unifying of Native Americans and all God's people."

The proclamation further states "...Native Americans, the host people of our Country, have during our history been wounded through the actions of others including governments, the church and society; and whereas, reconciliation begins by bringing together